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ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Report to the Supreme Court of Iowa
by
The Court Administrator of the Judicial Department

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

JUNE 23, 1986

TO THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICES
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 602.1209, subsection 6, 1985 Iowa Code, I submit herewith the 1985 report relating to the activity of the judicial department.

I wish to express my appreciation to the various clerks of the Iowa District Court, district court administrators and judicial officers for their cooperation in reporting statistics to this office.

Respectfully,

William J. O'Brien
State Court Administrator

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STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS AND TRENDS

Appellate Courts

1. In 1985, there were 1,901 filings (1,362 civil, 539 criminal) and 2,009 dispositions (1,406 civil, 603 criminal); filings increased 0.9 percent, while dispositions rose 8.2 percent from 1984.

2. Since 1985, the number of filings in the appellate courts soared 75 percent (1,086 to 1,901) or an average of 7.5 percent per year; the number of filings per appellate judge climbed 5.0 percent (121 to 127). [Table 11]

3. There were 932 formal dispositions (708 civil, 224 criminal) in the appellate courts in 1985 -- an increase of 9.5 percent (851 to 932) from 1984. By formal opinion, the supreme court disposed of 304 cases (258 civil, 46 criminal); the court of appeals handled 628 cases (450 civil, 178 criminal). The number of civil cases disposed of by formal opinion in the appellate courts increased 14.6 percent (668 to 708) from 1984 to 1985; the number of criminal cases fell 3.9 percent (233 to 224) . There were 1,077 appellate cases (698 civil, 379 criminal) terminated by order or other mode prior to submission to the court as compared to 1,007 dispositions of this kind in 1984. [Tables 3 and 9]

4. In 1985, cases involving domestic relations (dissolutions and child custody) comprised 24.6 percent (174 of 708) of the formal appellate decisions in civil cases -- the margest single category of dispositions. The 109 contract cases comprised the second most numerous type of civil case followed by tort and property cases. [Tables 3 and 9]

5. The average appellate case terminated by formal opinion was decided slightly over five months after it was ready for submission; the average elapse time from the filing of a notice of appeal to the time a case was ready for submission was about seven months. Regular civil cases submitted to the supreme court in January 1986, were made ready in or before October 1985 -- a delay of three months or three months shorter than a year ago.

6. During 1985, the number of pending cases in the appellate courts declined 5.1 percent (1,247 to 1,184). The number of cases "ready" for disposition decreased 10.4 percent (422 to 378). [A "ready" case in this context is defined as any pending case in which all necessary papers have been filed; it includes cases which have been submitted to the court but not decided.] [Tables 4 and 8]

7. By formal opinion, the appellate courts affirmed the decision of the trial court 66.6 percent of the time; district court filings had a 19.6 percent chance of being reversed; in 13.8 percent of the cases the appellate courts rendered a mixed decision partially affirming and reversing the trial court. There were 220 applications to the supreme court for further review of a court of appeals decision; the court granted further review in 43 cases while denying application for further review in 263 other instances. The supreme court vacated the judgment of the court of appeals in 28 cases, and affirmed 8 decisions in 1985.

Trial Court

1. In the 29-year period since 1956, the first year trial court statistics were collected and analyzed at the state level, the number of civil filings escalated 135.6 percent (22,922 to 54,005) while the number of criminal filings skyrocketed 565.5 percent (6,178 to 41,116); the number of civil/criminal filings per district judge mushroomed 131.0 percent (416 to 961). [Appendix F] Iowa's population grew 6.7 percent (2,722,375 to 2,904,500) during this period.

2. Since 1956, the number of civil/criminal dispositions per district court judge jumped 76.6 percent (394 to 696). [Appendix H].

3. Since 1956, the number of juvenile petitions soared 277.1 percent (1,607 to 6,060). The number of probate cases opened rose 53.6 percent (16,137 to 24,790) since 1956. [Appendix F]

4. Since the 1977 legislative freeze on district judgeships (modified in 1981 and 1983 to permit the appointment of seven additional district judges), civil filings increased 24.7 percent (43,324 to 54,005); criminal filings climbed 42.8 percent (28,795 to 41,116). Overall, civil/criminal filings rose 31.9 percent (72,119 to 95,121) in the eight-year period. The February 1986 application of the district judgeship formula (based on 1983, 1984 and 1985 filing statistics) entitles Iowa to 133 judgeships -- an increase of 34 over the 99 district court judges currently serving in the trial court. [Appendix F]

5. Since the first calendar year after unification of the district court (1974), the number of simple misdemeanors/scheduled violations filings increased 35.3 percent (484,651 to 655,787) while the number of small claims petitions increased 8.4 percent (68,021 to 73,752). The 1985 figures show a 1.1 percent drop in the number of simple misdemeanor filings, less than 0.1 percent rise in the number of scheduled violations and a 2.9 percent increase in the number of small claims filed in the district court from the previous year. [Appendix G]

6. In 1985, only 572 of the 234,266 simple misdemeanors (0.2 percent) and 727 of the 27,171 small claims (2.7 percent) terminated by judicial officers were appealed to the district court. [Tables 4 and 5]

7. In 1985, dissolutions and modifications (16,875), uniform support (8,223), and domestic abuse (246) filings accounted for 25,344 cases or 46.9 percent of all civil filings (54,005). Indictable misdemeanor cases involving first and second offense drunk driving (OWI) comprise 16,285 of the 41,116 criminal filings or 39.6 percent of the total. There were 7,970 felony filings in 1985 -- up 312 cases or 4.1 percent from the 7,658 felony filings in 1984. [Tables 4 and 5]

I. APPELLATE COURTS

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

The Supreme Court of Iowa is comprised of nine justices. The chief justice is selected by a vote of the court and serves for the duration of his or her eight-year term of office. As of June 1, 1986, ninety-seven persons have served on the supreme court since Iowa became a territory on July 12, 1838. Although the high court was comprised of only three justices during the first 25 years, the general assembly increased the court's membership to four in 1864, to five in 1876, to six in 1894, to seven in 1913, to eight in 1927, and nine in 1929, as a result of rising caseload.

At the end of 1985, the justices of the supreme court listed in order of seniority were: Harvey Uhlenhopp (Hampton), W. Ward Reynoldson, Chief Justice (Osceola), K. David Harris (Jefferson), Mark McCormick (Des Moines), Arthur A. McGiverin (Ottumwa), Jerry L. Larson (Harlan), Louis W. Schultz (Iowa City), James H. Carter (Cedar Rapids) and Charles R. Wolle (Des Moines). Justice Mark McCormick resigned effective January 31, 1986; on the same date, Fifth District Chief Judge Louis A. Lavorato of Des Moines was appointed to the supreme court.

Pictured above in a March 1986 photograph of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Iowa are, from left: Charles R. Wolle, Louis W. Schulz, Arthur A. McGiverin, Harvey Uhlenhopp, Chief Justice W. Ward Reynoldson, K. David Harris, Jerry L. Larson, James H. Carter and Louis A. Lavorato. Justice Harvey Uhlenhopp died May 22, 1986.

Selection and Removal

The method of selecting justices to the Supreme Court of Iowa has changed several times since 1838. While the three territorial justices were appointed by the President of the United States, when Iowa became a state on December 28, 1846, the constitution provided for the selection of supreme court justices by a joint vote of both houses of the general assembly. Iowa's second constitution, adopted in 1857, reflected the mood of Jacksonian democracy and called for the popular election of judges. Finally, in 1962, Iowa voters ratified a constitutional amendment which removed judges from partisan elections and established a 15-member State Judicial Nominating Commission comprised of seven laypersons appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and seven attorneys elected by members of the Iowa bar. The supreme court justice with the longest service, other than the chief justice, chairs the commission. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Supreme Court of Iowa, the commission nominates three individuals from whom the governor selects one. One year following initial appointment, and every eight years thereafter, supreme court justices stand for retention at the general election. Trial and appellate judges appointed after July 1, 1965, must retire by age 72; those appointed earlier may serve until their 75th birthday.

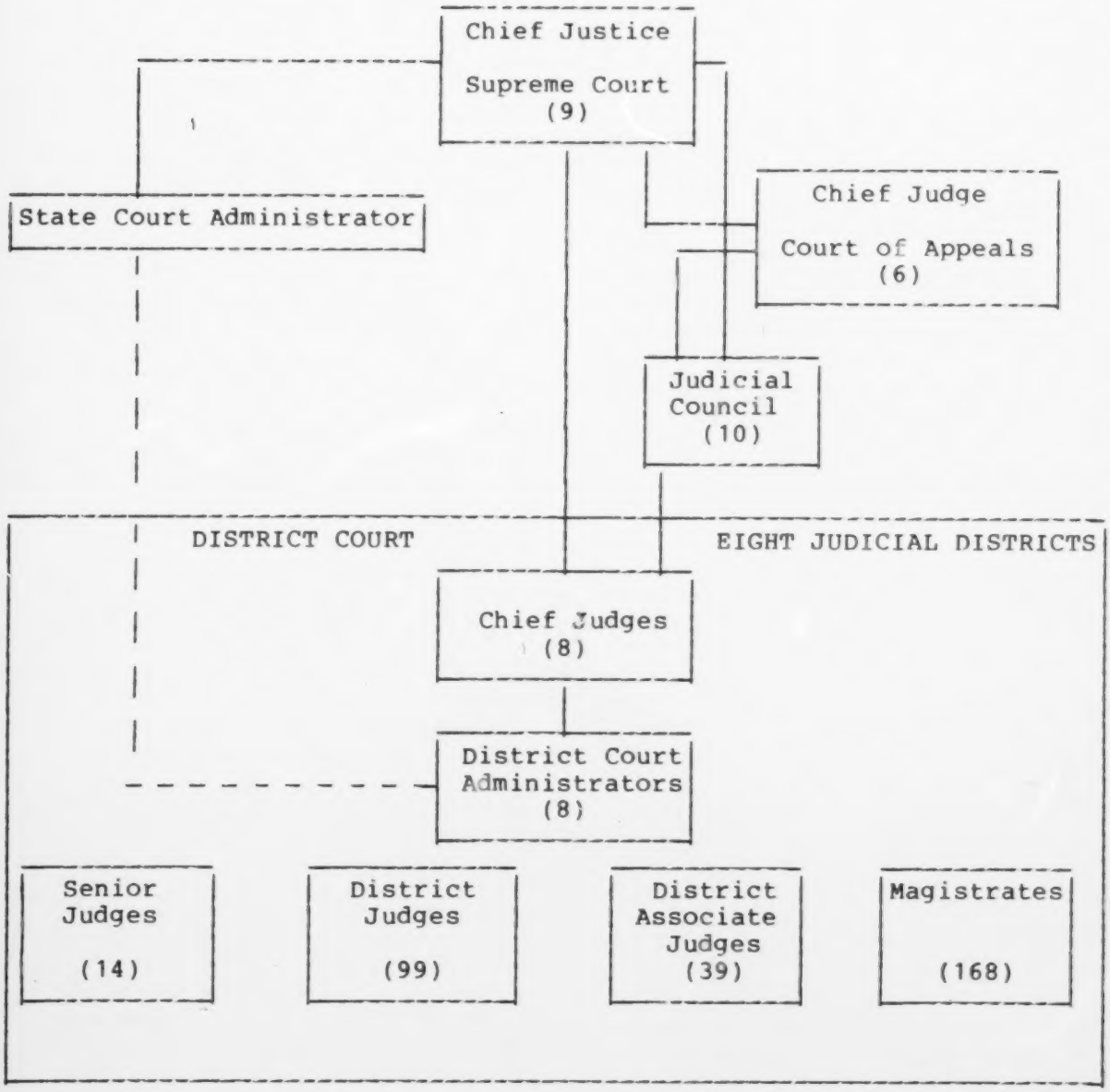
Procedures were established in 1975 for the discipline and removal of judges standing for retention election. The Commission on Judicial Qualifications may apply to the supreme court to retire, discipline or remove any justice, judge or magistrate. The commission is comprised of a district court judge and two practicing attorneys appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court and four non-attorney electors appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

Jurisdiction

The supreme court stands at the apex of the Iowa judicial system. The court has general appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. The court also has original jurisdiction in such cases as reapportionment, bar discipline and the issuance of temporary injunctions. The supreme court has jurisdiction over all appeals from final judgments and from interlocutory orders. It also has the authority to grant writs of certiorari in cases where a district court is alleged to have exceeded its jurisdiction or otherwise acted illegally. A majority of cases handled by the supreme court are appeals from adverse final judgments in the trial court, the Iowa District Court. Except where the action involves an interest in real

CHART 1

IOWA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
(June 1, 1986)



estate, no appeal shall be taken in any case where the amount in controversy, as shown by the pleadings, is less than $3,000 unless the trial judge certifies that the cause is one in which appeal should be allowed. In small claims actions, where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review. In criminal cases where the state is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: (1) an order dismissing an arrest or search warrant; (2) an order suppressing or admitting evidence; (3) an order granting or denying a change of venue; and (4) a final judgment or order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. In cases where the defendant is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: (1) an order suppressing or admitting evidence; (2) an order granting or denying a change of venue; (3) an order denying probation; (4) a simple misdemeanor or ordinance violation conviction; and (5) an order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. All other final judgments may be appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. [See diagram of the Iowa judicial system on the preceding page.]

The 1976 Session of the 66th General Assembly established a five-member court of appeals. [The Iowa Court of Appeals was increased to six members in 1983.] All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court which transfers cases to the intermediate court. Supreme court justices in rotating three-member panels determine which cases to retain and which matters to route to the court of appeals. Pursuant to Rule 401, Rules of Appellate Procedure, the supreme court ordinarily shall hear (not transfer) cases involving: (1) substantial constitutional questions as to the validity of a statute, ordinance, court, or administrative rule; (2) substantial issues in which there is or is claimed to be a conflict with a published decision of the court of appeals or supreme court; (3) substantial issues of first impression; (4) fundamental and urgent issues of broad public importance requiring prompt or ultimate determination; and (5) lawyer discipline. The rule also authorizes summary disposition of certain cases by the supreme court and transfer to the court of appeals of cases involving the application of existing legal principles.

In addition to deciding cases, the supreme court is authorized to supervise the administration of justice and promulgate rules of procedure for the district court, determine the rules for admission and discipline of the bar, regulate a client security fund and program of mandatory continuing education for lawyers and judges, and adopt rules regulating

appellate practice and procedure. In exercising its administrative and supervisory control over the trial court, the Supreme Court of Iowa appoints a chief judge in each of the eight judicial districts. The chief judges are responsible for overseeing all judges and magistrates within their jurisdictions. Together with the chief justice of the supreme court and the chief judge of the court of appeals, chief judges of the district court comprise the Iowa Judicial Council. The council is authorized to consider all court administrative rules, directives, and regulations necessary to provide for an efficient, orderly, and effective administration of justice in Iowa.

Administrative Office

Assisting the supreme court in its administrative, supervisory, and decision-making roles are the state court administrator, clerk of the supreme court, legal assistants, and various boards and commissions. The court administrator, clerk of supreme court and legal assistants serve at the pleasure of the court. The court administrator and staff have many statutory and administrative responsibilities including: managing the judicial department, screening cases for oral argument and case routing, writing case statements, gathering statistical data on the judicial business at all levels, apportioning judicial magistrates among the counties, computing the district court judgeship formula, conducting judicial educational programs, recommending improvements in the organization and operation of the judicial system, administering the judicial retirement system, handling fiscal and personnel matters, planning and budgeting for the judicial department, providing administrative assistance to various court-appointed committees and attending to such matters as the supreme court may direct. The court administrator serves as the executive secretary for the Judicial Qualifications Commission, and secretary to the State Judicial Nominating Commission; the court administrator is also a member of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Agency and the State Library Commission.

The clerk of the supreme court also serves as the clerk of the court of appeals. The clerk dockets and monitors all cases appealed to the court, collects court fees, files legal briefs, and appendices and records and files every opinion and order of the appellate courts. The clerk is responsible for the sale of court opinions, the administration of the biannual Iowa bar examination and the election of attorney-members to the state

and judicial election district nominating commissions. The clerk of the supreme court also collects and accounts for all fees associated with the state bar examination and the shorthand reporter examination and certification.

Boards and Commissions

In its role as supervisor of the Iowa bar, the supreme court appoints the members of the Board of Law Examiners and confirms as commissioners of the court the members of the Grievance Commission and the Committee on Professional Ethics and Conduct. In 1973, with the assistance of The Iowa State Bar Association, the court established the Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary System designed to prevent defalcations by members of the Iowa bar and provide for the payment of losses caused to the public by dishonest conduct of Iowa attorneys. The court appointed a seven-member commission to administer the fund resulting from an annual assessment imposed on attorneys. In 1973, the supreme court ordered that all Iowa lawyers and judges complete a minimum of 15 hours of continuing legal education each year. A 12-member Commission on Continuing Legal Education was appointed to exercise general supervisory authority over the administration of this rule.

On December 28, 1984, the Supreme Court of Iowa, upon petition of The Iowa State Bar Association, established an Interest on Lawyer's Trust Account program (IOLTA), effective July 1, 1985. Attorneys in Iowa are required to deposit clients' funds in interest-bearing trust accounts. However, under this program, sums that are too small or held for too short a time to cover the cost of maintaining the accounts, the attorneys are required to deposit such funds into a pooled interest-bearing trust account. Any interest resulting from the pooled account is transmitted to the Lawyer Trust Account Commission, a seven-member body of both lawyers and laypersons appointed by the supreme court to administer the IOLTA program. Funds received in the IOLTA program are used primarily to assist in providing legal services to the poor in civil cases. Other public purposes related to improving the administration of justice also are eligible. The supreme court determines the actual allocation of IOLTA funds.

The supreme court is responsible for promulgating rules of evidence, appellate, civil, criminal, juvenile and probate procedure. The court also is authorized to prescribe rules of evidence, pleading, practice, and procedure, and the forms of process, writs, and notices for all proceedings concerning hospitalization of mentally ill persons and chemical substance

abuse. In exercising its rulemaking authority, the supreme court is assisted by several committees including: (1) the Supreme court Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure; (2) the Advisory Committee on Rules of Criminal Procedure; (3) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Iowa Rules of Evidence; (4) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure; and (5) the Probate Rules Committee. In developing rules for the hospitalization of the mentally ill, the supreme court has been assisted by The Iowa State Bar Association's Committee on Law and Behavioral Sciences.

Court Reorganization

In recent years the administrative responsibilities of the state court administrator and supreme court have increased dramatically as the size of the judicial department has grown. The 1983 Court Reorganization Act provided state funding for court support staff and a five-year phase-in by functional area of various court system components: October 1, 1983 - jury fees and mileage; July 1, 1984 - court reporters, and witness fees and mileage; January 1, 1985 - court attendants; July 1, 1985 - juvenile referees, juvenile court officers, and staff; July 1, 1986 - district court clerks and staff, probate referees, judicial hospitalization referees, and incidental judicial expenses; and July 1, 1987 - indigent defense costs. The implementation of court reorganization has proceeded on schedule. The judicial department will double in size when over 900 employees join the department July 1, 1986.

The supreme court has appointed advisory committees from different components joining the judicial department to assist the court in implementing a smooth transition. A personnel system and pay plan for all judicial employees has been established. The state court administrator is the public employer of court employees for purposes of public employment relations.

The supreme court also is assisted by eight chief judges and district court administrators who supervise judicial officers and employees in their respective districts. Although funding is now centralized, most of the day-to-day administration is done at the district level where budgets are developed and expenditures are monitored. The supreme court and staff review all budget requests, prepare a departmental budget, and present the budget request to the legislative branch. A budget summary is attached to the chief justice's annual "State of the Judiciary" message to the legislature.

Work Load

During 1985, the Supreme Court of Iowa disposed of 304 cases by written opinion -- 245 civil, 46 criminal and 13 disciplinary [Table 1]. As illustrated in the chart below, the number of formal opinions (signed and unsigned) decreased 5.9 percent (323 to 304) from 1984 to 1985. The dramatic 82 percent drop in the number of per curiam opinions during the last two years (174 to 31) was primarily the result of the discontinuation of the "fast-track" decision process whereby less complex cases were submitted without oral argument to rotating three-justice supreme court panels. Since February 1984, the supreme court has transferred cases eligible for "fast-track" processing to the court of appeals.

Year	Signed Court Opinions	Unsigned Per Curiam Opinions	Total
1985	273	31	304
1984	270	53	323
1983	281	174	455
1982	289	178	467
1981	278	105	383
1980	250	25	275

As illustrated in Table 2, 82.9 percent of the cases (252 of 304) decided by formal opinion were appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. There were 197 appeals from final judgments in the district court, 19 appeals from interlocutory rules, 15 postconviction appeals, 13 attorney disciplinary actions and 2 cases involving certified questions of law from the U.S. District Court. The Supreme Court of Iowa exercised discretionary review in only 52 cases -- 38 cases appealed from the court of appeals, 13 original certiorari cases and one discretionary review of a small claim.

Table 3 shows the most numerous types of civil cases disposed of by written opinion concerned administrative law (56), torts (50), contracts (35), property (18) and domestic relations (17). Of the 46 criminal cases, 11 involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing issues, exclusively.

In addition to writing 304 opinions during 1985, the nine supreme court justices registered 44 dissents and 5 special concurrences. Their opinions totaled 3,330 pages or 370 pages per judge on double-spaced, letter-size paper. The average supreme court opinion was approximately 11 pages in length. Over 86 percent of the rulings (263 of 304) were approved by a unanimous vote of the justices. The 1985 figures show that while the number of formal supreme court opinions fell 5.9

percent (323 to 304), the average length of court rulings rose by half a page.

Cases filed before the supreme court rose slightly from 1,884 (1984) to 1,901 (1985) -- an increase of 0.9 percent. As noted in Table 11, the number of filings in the supreme court mushroomed 75.0 percent (1,086 to 1,901) during the last decade. Since 1975, civil filings have soared 96.3 percent (694 to 1,362) while criminal cases have climbed 37.5 percent (392 to 539).

Table 4 indicates the number of civil and criminal cases "In Work," "Ready," "Assigned" and "Out-to-Judges" which were pending as of January 1, 1984, 1985 and 1986. From December 31, 1983, to the end of 1985, the number of cases "In Work" fell 8.7 percent (883 to 806) while the number of cases "Ready" for disposition decreased 39.8 percent (161 to 97). The total number of pending cases dropped by 137 cases (1,107 to 970) or 12.4 percent.

When the pending cases in both appellate courts are examined, figures show an overall decrease of 5.1 percent (1,247 to 1,184) in the number of pending cases from December 31, 1984, to the end of 1985. Including cases assigned and submitted but not decided, the number of cases ready for disposition (i.e., all necessary papers filed) dropped 10.4 percent (422 to 378) during 1985.

As noted in Table 5, the average elapse time from "Ready" for submission to supreme court decision was 5.6 months in 1985 or about the same processing time as in the previous two years. The processing time for civil, priority civil and criminal cases was 6.1, 4.0 and 3.8 months, respectively.

An examination of the direction of the supreme court decisions during 1985, indicates that 61 percent of the district court rulings were affirmed by the court, 29 percent were reversed, and 10 percent were mixed. (A "mixed" supreme court decision is defined as a ruling which both "affirms" and "modifies" or "reverses" parts of a district court ruling.) Fifty-seven cases involving such matters as attorney disciplinary actions, appeals from the court of appeals, certification of questions of law and original jurisdiction matters were not classified or included in the disposition direction computation.

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Affirmed	53	67	64	62	60	61
Reversed	33	23	23	25	27	29
Mixed	14	10	13	13	13	10

Nearly sixty percent of the cases (181/304) disposed of by written opinion were appealed from the trial courts of ten urban counties. Over one out of five cases arose in Polk County.

Counties	Number of Cases	Percentage of Total Cases Disposed
Polk	67	22.0
Linn	21	6.9
Scott	17	5.6
Black Hawk	13	4.3
Story	13	4.3
Woodbury	12	3.9
Lee	11	3.6
Pottawattamie	11	3.6
Johnson	9	3.0
Webster	7	2.3
TOTAL	181	59.5

In addition to the 304 supreme court cases disposed of by formal opinion after submission to the court, 1,795 cases (1,213 civil and 582 criminal) were disposed of by court order, consolidation, dismissal by the clerk for failure to cure a default or by voluntary action by the parties involved. Table 6 shows 152 cases were dismissed by order of the supreme court; 264 orders were issued denying petitions for various types of review; 89 cases were dismissed by the clerk for failure to cure a default after notice; 401 cases were voluntarily withdrawn by the parties; 34 cases were consolidated; 727 cases were transferred by order of the supreme court to the court of appeals and 128 were disposed of by other means. In total, 2,099 filings were disposed of by the supreme court in 1985. Excluding cases transferred to the court of appeals, the supreme court disposed of 1,372 appeals in 1985.

A significant amount of judge-time also was spent ruling on preliminary motions and applications, conducting hearings, and writing 5,128 orders which did not result in the disposal of a case. Excluding orders transferring cases to the court of appeals, the number of dispository and non-dispository orders issued by the supreme court during the last six years is illustrated on the next page.

Year	Dispository Orders	Nondispository Orders
1985	1,068	5,128
1984	1,002	4,974
1983	893	5,071
1982	923	4,939
1981	822	5,006
1980	838	4,220

In recent years, several major structural and procedural changes have contributed to the supreme court's ability to handle an increasing number of appeals. One important innovation has been the reinstitution of a practice prevalent from 1929-43; namely, hearing and deciding cases in divisions of five members. Instead of spending four days a month in court hearing oral arguments, each justice now spends two days hearing oral arguments. (During the monthly court week, Wednesday and sometimes part of Thursday morning, generally are reserved for conference and administrative matters.) Except in the most complex and controversial cases in which two or more justices request disposition en banc (by the full nine-member court), cases before the supreme court are decided by division. The drafts of all proposed opinions are circulated to the entire court. At any time prior to final approval of a proposed opinion, any two justices may request that a specific case be decided en banc. The research staff initially screens all cases and recommends to a three-justice screening panel whether a case should be submitted en banc or to a division; staff attorneys also recommend the amount of oral argument time, if any, which should be allotted to each case, and whether the case should be retained by the supreme court or transferred to the court of appeals.

As noted in Table 7, 251 of the 304 supreme court decisions were decided by a panel of five justices. Nearly 85 percent of the disciplinary cases were considered en banc; 15.1 percent of the civil and 10.9 percent of the criminal cases were voted on formally by the full membership of the court. Overall, 17.4 percent of the cases disposed of in 1985 were decided by all nine justices sitting en banc.

In addition to using judicial panels to hear and decide cases, the court also has conserved time by reducing the number of cases permitted oral argument and limiting the amount of time each party can use in presenting its case. While before 1973 the court allowed 75 minutes to argue a case, today most oral arguments are limited to approximately 35 minutes. In 1984, 53 of the 303 cases (18.2 percent) were submitted without

oral argument before the supreme court. As illustrated below, the number and percentage of appeals submitted to the supreme court without oral argument dropped substantially in 1984 and 1985 due to the transfer of many less complex "fast-track" cases to the court of appeals.

SUBMISSIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT

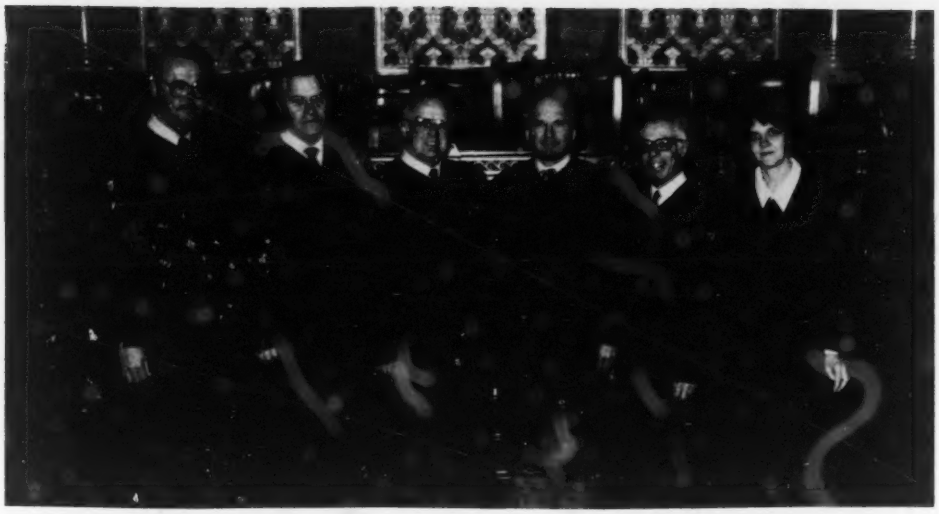
Year	Oral	Non-Oral	Total	Percent Non-Oral
1985	250	53	303	17.5
1984	234	76	310	24.5
1983	257	193	450	43.5
1982	264	217	481	45.1
1981	254	136	390	34.9
1980	236	46	282	16.3
1979	209	60	269	22.3
1978	258	96	354	27.1
1977	264	105	369	28.5
1976	242	149	391	38.1

Other factors playing crucial roles in alleviating some of the court's research and administrative burdens include: the research of legal assistants, case statements, court orders and screening recommendations drafted by the research staff, and the administrative tasks performed by the state court administrator and staff, and the clerk's office.

THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS

In 1976, the 66th General Assembly established a new five-member appellate court designated as the Iowa Court of Appeals; in 1983 a sixth member was added. The new court began hearing oral arguments and deciding cases in January 1977. The members of the Iowa Court of Appeals listed in order of seniority are: Allen L. Donielson (Des Moines), Bruce M. Snell, Jr. (Ida Grove), Leo Oxberger, Chief Judge (Des Moines), Dick R. Schlegel (Ottumwa), Maynard J. V. Hayden (Indianola) and Rosemary Shaw Sackett (Spencer).

The court of appeals is authorized to review all civil and criminal actions, postconviction remedy proceedings, small claims actions, writs, orders and other processes transferred to it by the supreme court. The Iowa Court of Appeals hears only the cases transferred to it by the supreme court. All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court.



The judges of the Iowa Court of Appeals are, from left: Maynard J.V. Hayden, Dick R. Schlegel, Allen L. Donielson, Chief Judge Leo Oxberger, Bruce M. Snell, Jr., and Rosemary Shaw Sackett.

Work Load

As indicated in Table 8, during 1985, the six-member court of appeals disposed of 637 cases -- 459 civil and 178 criminal -- the largest number of dispositions in its nine-year history. There were 61 per curiam opinions, 567 signed opinions, and nine cases dismissed by order. Since the court of appeals was established in late 1976 and began deciding cases in 1977, it has disposed of 4,151 cases (3,005 civil and 1,146 criminal). There were 147 civil and 67 criminal cases pending before the court of appeals at the end of 1985.

The number and type of cases disposed of by formal written opinion are illustrated in Table 9. As noted in this table, the court of appeals disposed of 157 domestic relations cases (51 involving child custody), 74 contract cases, 44 property matters, 37 tort cases, 35 postconviction relief cases and 34 administrative law matters. Twenty-six of the 178 criminal cases involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing only.

Of the 612 cases classified by disposition, 421 or 68.6 percent were affirmed, 98 or 233 percent were reversed, and 95 or 15.5 percent were a combination of the two, modified or remanded only. In 1985, approximately 9.6 percent of the cases (61/637) were decided by per curiam opinion; in 1981 nearly three-fourths of the cases (368/501) were terminated by an unsigned per curiam opinion.

During 1985, the supreme court considered 306 applications for further review and granted review in 43 cases or 14.1 percent of the time. In 1984, the supreme court considered 241 applications, granting 44; in 1981 the court granted 16 out of 135 applications. Of the 36 court of appeals rulings reviewed by the supreme court in 1985, 28 were vacated and 8 were affirmed.

The average delay from the time a case was "ready" for submission to "decision" by the court of appeals was 5.2 months -- over seven months less than appellate delay in 1977, the court's first year of operation. [Table 10] In 1985, the average elapse time for non-priority civil cases was 5.8 months; the delay was 16.1 months in 1977. The average delay in case processing increased slightly from 1984 to 1985.

Of the 671 cases submitted to the court of appeals in 1985, 358 or 53.4 percent were heard on the record without oral argument. In 1984, the proportion of cases decided without oral argument was 45.7 percent.

Including the 74 opinions with one or more dissents, the 628 formal opinions totaled 3,473 pages, an average of 5.5 pages per case or 579 pages per judge, counting the title page. Opinions ranged in length from 2 to 15 pages on double-spaced, letter-size paper.

Of the 628 dispositions by formal opinion, 371 or 59.1 percent were appealed from 12 counties: Polk (98), Linn (51), Black Hawk (45), Scott (41), Pottawattamie (25), Woodbury (20), Dubuque and Marshall (18), Johnson (17), Cerro Gordo and Clinton (13), and Lee (12). During 1985, the court of appeals decided cases from 97 of the 99 counties in Iowa.

Iowa Appellate Courts -- Statistical Summary

There were 1,901 cases -- 1,362 civil and 539 criminal -- filed in the supreme court in 1985, up from 1,884 in 1984. The skyrocketing rise of appellate case filings from 1975 to 1985 is graphically illustrated in Table 11. Since 1975, civil filings have soared 96.3 percent (694 to 1,362) while the number of criminal cases docketed has mushroomed 37.5 percent (392 to 539). In 1985, there were nearly 127 filings per appellate judge.

During 1985, the supreme court and the court of appeals disposed of 2,009 cases -- 1,406 civil (including 13 disciplinary cases) and 603 criminal -- up from 1,857 in 1984. Half of the civil (698/1,406) and 63 percent of the criminal dispositions (379/603) were by order rather than formal

opinion; 50.0 percent of these matters were dismissed by the clerk or the court, denied or consolidated; 37.2 percent were voluntarily dismissed or withdrawn. There were 1,184 case spending (817 civil and 367 criminal) at the end of the year -- a decrease of 63 or 5.1 percent from the first of the year. The number of pending cases ready for disposition declined 10.4 percent (422 to 378) during 1985.

There were 932 dispositions by formal opinion -- 708 civil and 224 criminal. During 1985, the average case was decided slightly over one year after it was docketed in the supreme court clerk's office. In the average case the parties required nearly seven months to file the briefs, records, etc., and make the case ready for submission to the court; the elapse time from readiness to decision was slightly over five months. The largest category of civil cases handled at the appellate level by formal opinion was domestic relations -- 174 of 708 civil cases or 24.6 percent. The number and types of other civil cases decided by formal opinion in the appellate courts were as follows: contracts, 109; torts, 87; property, 62; and postconviction relief, 51.

The supreme court disbarred one lawyer, revoked the license of three attorneys, suspended the licenses of 22 lawyers and reprimanded seven others. In ten instances, attorney licenses were reinstated or the attorneys were readmitted to practice; on two occasions reinstatement was denied. The court also found one attorney in contempt and imposed discipline on one judge. Thirteen disciplinary cases were decided by a formal opinion of the supreme court.

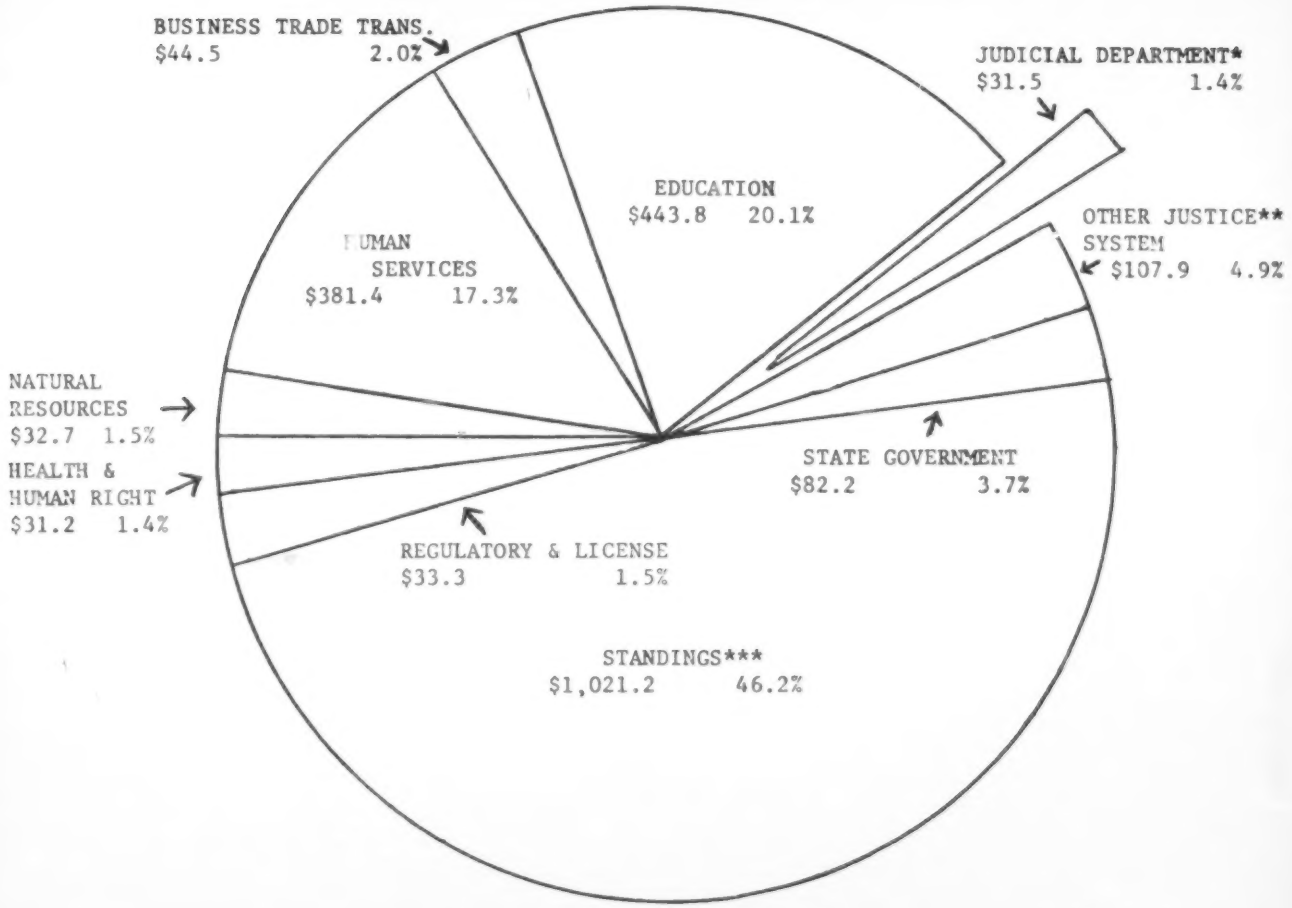
Budget

The 1985 Session of the 71st General Assembly appropriated $31,500,000 to finance the operation and administration of the trial and appellate courts in Iowa for fiscal year ending June 30, 1986. This figure includes appropriations for the supreme court, court of appeals, state court administrator's office, district court administration, Judicial Qualifications Commission, Board of Law Examiners, Board of Shorthand Reporters, jury and witness fees, the salaries and travel expenses of all judicial officers, official court reporters, court attendants and juvenile court service officers.

As noted in Chart 2 on the following page, the general fund appropriation for the judiciary represented 1.4 percent of the total state general fund appropriation of $2,209,683,125.

STATE OF IOWA

Appropriated funds for Fiscal Year 1986
in millions of dollars $2,209.7



The cost of administering the Judicial Department is 1.4 percent of the total State General Fund Appropriation for FY 1986.

Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Fiscal Report 1985 Session, June, 1985.

*Judicial Department includes: courts, court operations, district court administration, court reorganization, boards and commissions.
**Other Justice System includes: the Attorney General's Office, the Departments of Corrections and Public Safety, and the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Agency.
***Standings are moneys, both limited and unlimited, authorized by statute but not included in any appropriations bill.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY CASES TERMINATED BY FORMAL OPINION SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1975-1985

YEAR	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	DISCIPLINARY	TOTAL
1985	245	46	13	304
1984	209	100	14	323
1983	301	149	5	455
1982	295	161	11	467
1981	208	171	4	383
1980	187	84	4	275
1979	202	81	7	290
1978	245	103	9	357
1977	252	118	4	374
1976	176	210	8	394
1975	229	143	6	378
TOTAL	2,549	1,366	85	4,000

a. Where two or more related cases were consolidated for purposes of decision-making and resolved by one court opinion, only one of the combined cases was counted in computing the total number of dispositions by opinion. In 1984, the 304 supreme court decisions involved 338 case filings.
b. The "civil" case category in this report includes appeals from final denials of postconviction relief and all certiorari cases.
c. "Criminal" means direct appeals from final judgment in criminal cases.
d. Includes only the bar disciplinary proceedings disposed of by written opinion and published in the North Western Reporter.

TABLE 2

FORMAL DISPOSITIONS BY THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA AS CLASSIFIED BY MODE OF REVIEW -- 1980-1985

MODE OF REVIEW	NUMBER OF FORMAL DISPOSITIONS					
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Appeal from Final Order (judgment) in District Court						
Civil Case	149	145	233	217	134	164
Criminal Case	75	159	149	131	86	33
Original Certiorari						
Civil Case	4	6	5	7	6	10
Criminal Case	4	3	4	2	3	3
Appeal from Interlocutory Ruling	10	19	15	29	16	19
Discretionary Review of Small Claim	5	1	3	4	--	1
Certified Question of Law	2	3	6	4	4	1
Appeal in Postconviction Relief Proceeding	8	21	17	17	16	15
Lawyer Disciplinary	4	4	11	5	14	13*
Further Review	10	15	15	23	23	38
Miscellaneous	4	7	9	16	11	6
Total Dispositions	275	383	467	455	313	303

*Includes one judge disciplinary case.

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND TYPE OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY SUPREME COURT OPINION, 1980-1985

CASE TYPE	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
CIVIL						
Administrative law	31	23	41	56	31	56
Contracts	42	29	37	46	30	35
Contested child custody	10	14	13	16	7	7
Domestic relations not involving child custody	8	32	56	43	19	10
Postconviction relief	8	21	17	17	18	16
Property	15	16	26	11	17	18
Taxation	4	4	5	7	2	8
Tort	34	33	46	55	39	50
Trust, estates, wills	9	7	9	10	10	6
Other	26	29	45	40	36	39
TOTAL CIVIL	187	208	295	301	209	245
CRIMINAL						
Guilty plea only	4	11	15	8	2	--
Sentencing only	9	19	23	30	10	10
Guilty plea and sentencing only	3	7	4	2	4	1
Other	68	134	119	109	84	35
TOTAL CRIMINAL	84	171	161	149	100	46
LAWYER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS*	4	4	11	5	14	13
TOTAL	275	383	467	455	323	304

*Includes one judge disciplinary case.

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES: IN WORK[a], READY[b], ASSIGNED[c], AND OUT-TO-SUPREME COURT JUSTICES[d]
A COMPARISON OF CASELOADS
DECEMBER 31, 1983, 1984 AND 1985

	1983			1984			1985		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
IN WORK	593	290	883	567	258	825	535	271	806
READY	110	51	161*	189	47	236*	80	17	97*
ASSIGNED	22	5	27	20	6	26	19	7	26
OUT-TO-JUSTICES	24	12	36	29	10	39	36	5	41
TOTAL	749	358	1,107	805	321	1,126	670	300	970

a. In Work -- All cases docketed which are not yet ready for submission.
b. Ready -- All cases ready for submission.
c. Assigned -- All cases which have been assigned to the justices and will be submitted or formally presented to the court within a month.
d. Out-to-Justices -- All cases submitted to the court which have not been decided.

*For purposes of this table, the 548, 569 and 727 cases transferred to the court of appeals in 1983, 1984 and 1985, respectively, were deducted from the number of ready cases pending before the supreme court.

TABLE 5

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1975-1985

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	AVERAGE DELAY
1985	6.1	4.0	3.8	5.6
1984	6.2	4.1	4.1	5.4
1983	6.8	3.8	3.7	5.5
1982	7.5	4.6	3.8	5.9
1981	5.9	4.7	4.9	5.2
1980	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.0
1979	5.4	4.0	4.4	5.0
1978	8.3	4.1	4.2	6.5
1977	17.0	4.3	4.5	12.2
1976	20.2	4.0	3.8	9.0
1975	14.6	3.3	4.7	9.0

TABLE 6

DISPOSITION OF CASES AT THE SUPREME COURT LEVEL BY ORDER OR OTHER MODE PRIOR TO FORMAL SUBMISSION TO THE COURT - 1985

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
Voluntary dismissal or withdrawal of appeal or other review by appellant	330	71	401
Dismissal by the clerk pursuant to Rule 19, R. App. P., for failure to cure default within 15 days after notice	66	23	89
Dismissal by court for failure to comply with Rules of Appellate Procedure	2	--	2
Dismissal by court for lack of jurisdiction	3	--	3
Dismissal by court of frivolous criminal appeal pursuant to Rule 104, R. App. P.	--	147	147
Denial of petition for permission to appeal an interlocutory ruling	129	--	129
Denial of petition for writ of certiorari	37	3	40
Denial of petition for discretionary review	26	69	95
Cases transferred to the court of appeals by order of the supreme court	524	203	727
Consolidations*	27	7	34
Other	69	59	128
TOTALS	1,213	582	1,795

*For purposes of this table, cases were classified as consolidated at the time an order granting consolidation was filed.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION OF THE SUPREME COURT EN BANC AND BY DIVISION, 1983-1985

	EN BANC			DIVISION			PERCENT EN BANC		
	1983	1984	1985	1983	1984	1985	1983	1984	1985
CIVIL	27	22	37	274	187	208	9.0%	10.5%	15.1%
CRIMINAL	2	13	5	147	87	41	1.3%	13.0%	10.9%
DISCIPLINARY	5	14	11	—	—	2	100.0%	100.0%	84.6%
TOTAL	34	49	53	421	274	251	7.5%	15.2%	17.4%

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES TRANSFERRED TO, TERMINATED BY AND PENDING BEFORE THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS 1977-1985

YEAR	TRANSFERRED			TERMINATED			PENDING END OF YEAR		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1985	524	203	727	459	178	637	147	67	214
1984	412	157	569	397	135	532	80	41	121
1983	330	119	449	405	150	555	65	19	84
1982	397	134	531	307	116	423	140	50	190
1981	305	149	454	348	163	511	50	32	82
1980	344	116	460	303	94	397	93	46	139
1979	263	114	377	259	120	379	52	24	76
1978	245	125	370	267	117	384	48	30	78
1977	330	95	425*	260	73	333	70	22	92
TOTAL	3,150	1,212	4,362	3,005	1,146	4,151	745	331	1,076

*Includes 69 cases — 56 civil and 13 criminal — transferred to the court of appeals in late 1976.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPE OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1980-1985

CASE TYPE	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
CIVIL						
Administrative law	33	36	44	56	31	34
Contracts	35	39	50	54	58	74
Contested child custody	44	63	51	84	51	51
Domestic relations not involving child custody	81	94	53	87	102	106
Postconviction relief	10	16	12	29	27	35
Property	26	24	24	28	37	44
Taxation	3	4	4	3	9	8
Tort	34	35	33	28	41	37
Trust, estates, wills	14	13	13	16	3	23
Other	16	14	17	14	36	38
TOTAL CIVIL	296	338	301	399	395	450
CRIMINAL						
Guilty plea only	3	10	3	4	4	4
Sentencing only	7	12	9	6	21	20
Guilty plea and sentencing only	2	5	--	4	2	2
Other	82	136	102	135	106	152
TOTAL CRIMINAL	94	163	114	149	133	178
TOTAL	390	501	415	548	528	628

TABLE 10

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION IOWA COURT OF APPEALS 1977-1985

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	AVERAGE DELAY
1985	5.8	4.8	4.7	5.2
1984	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.8
1983	6.3	5.0	5.2	5.7
1982	6.9	5.2	5.3	6.2
1981	5.8	5.0	5.0	5.5
1980	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
1979	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.9
1978	3.7	4.0	4.1	5.8
1977	16.1	4.6	4.6	12.5

TABLE 11

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES FILED*
AT THE APPELLATE COURT LEVEL
1975-1985

YEAR	CIVIL*	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1985	1,362	539	1,901
1984	1,297	587	1,884
1983	1,290	491	1,781
1982	1,253	596	1,849
1981	1,175	558	1,733
1980	1,081	539	1,620
1979	1,014	493	1,507
1978	1,003	487	1,490
1977	785	446	1,231
1976	737	439	1,176
1975	694	392	1,086
TOTAL	11,691	5,567	17,258
10-Year Increase in Percent	96.3%	37.5%	75.0%

*Includes attorney disciplinary cases.

II. TRIAL COURT

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

The unified trial court, known as the "Iowa District Court," became operative July 1, 1973. The district court has general and original jurisdiction of all actions and proceedings, including probate and juvenile matters. Its jurisdiction is exercised by senior judges, district judges, district associate judges, alternate district associate judges, and magistrates. The salary and travel expenses of all judges and magistrates are funded by the state.

The Unified Trial Court Act requires the clerks of the district court to furnish each magistrate, associate judge, or district judge acting as a magistrate, a docket in which to enter all proceedings within their jurisdiction, except those required to be docketed with the clerks and assigned to judicial officers for disposition. The chief judge of a judicial district is authorized to order criminal proceedings combined in a centralized docket.

Magistrates

The Unified Trial Court Act created and allotted 191 part-time magistrate positions to the 99 counties in the state, ranging from one to six per county. The original allotment remained in effect until June 30, 1975. Since that date, the state court administrator has apportioned magistrates among the counties.

A magistrate appointing commission selects the magistrates to fill the positions allotted to the county. The person appointed must be an elector of the county and able to serve a full term of office before reaching the mandatory retirement age of 72. Although a license to practice law is not required, the commission must first consider licensed attorneys. In counties allotted only one such position, the appointing commission is authorized to appoint an additional magistrate and divide the statutory salary. (Adair, Howard, Ida and Monona Counties exercised this option in 1985.) Magistrates serve a two-year term of office commencing July 1 in odd-numbered years. The apportionment made in 1985 appears in Appendix E.

As amended, the Unified Trial Court Act authorizes any county with an allotment of three or more magistrate positions to appoint a district associate judge to substitute for three part-time magistrates. The substitution is made by order of the chief judge of the judicial district on the affirmative vote of a majority of the district judges in the judicial

election district in which the county is located. District associate judges serving in lieu of magistrates are nominated, appointed and retained in the same manner as regular district associate judges. As they also have the same qualifications, rights, salary, duties, responsibilities, authority and jurisdiction as regular district associate judges, their work load is totally integrated in this report.

Jurisdiction

Magistrates have jurisdiction of the following:

1. Preliminary hearing cases. [Cases in which they act as committing magistrates on felonies and indictable misdemeanors.] (R.Cr.P. 2(4)(a), The Code.)

2. Nonindictable or simple misdemeanors, including traffic and ordinance violations. [A simple misdemeanor is a criminal offense in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of $100 or imprisonment for 30 days.]

3. Search warrant proceedings.

4. Emergency hospitalization proceedings. (Section 229.22, The Code.)

5. Lost property actions. [These include issuing a warrant directing a peace officer to appoint appraisers to fix the value of vessels, rafts, logs and lumber which have been stopped or taken up and determining the ownership of other lost property.] (Chapter 644.)

The above proceedings are all required to be entered in the docket furnished to them by the clerk or in the centralized docket for the county, if one is ordered to be maintained by the chief judge of the judicial district.

6. Small claims. [A small claim is a civil action (1) for a money judgment where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, exclusive of interest and costs, and (2) actions for forcible entry and detainer where no question of title to the property is involved.

The act requires the clerk of the district court to maintain the docket for small claims actions. If the action is one for money judgment and it is not disposed of by the clerk through entry of a confession of judgment, default judgment or a voluntary dismissal, it must be assigned to a judicial officer having jurisdiction of such actions. This is done by

delivering the original notice first filed with the clerk to the officer. If it is an action for forcible entry and detainer, the appearance is required before the judicial officer who must handle the entire proceeding, including an order for the issuance of a writ of eviction if the plaintiff prevails. Again, the assignment is perfected by the clerk delivering the original notice first filed and all papers in the case to the judicial officer.

The record of all actions taken by the judicial officer in either type of small claims proceeding, including notes of testimony and judgment entry, is made on the original notice to which exhibits, if any, are attached and returned to the clerk. It serves as a calendar sheet from which the clerk makes proper entries in the small claims docket and on the lien index. Small claims actions are not entered in the docket furnished to judicial officers by the clerk or in the centralized docket used for criminal proceedings.

District Associate Judges

The original act provided for 30 magistrates required to devote full time to their position. One to four positions were authorized to counties in four population categories ranging from 35,000 to over 200,000. The 25 municipal court judges holding office June 30, 1973, became district associate judges and satisfied the requirement of a regular full-time magistrate in the county of their residence. Upon the death, resignation, retirement, removal or nonretention of a district associate judge, a full-time magistrate was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Effective January 1, 1981, full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges. District associate judges serve four-year terms and stand for retention in office in their judicial election district the same as district judges.

In counties having only one district associate judge, the county magistrate appointing commission is authorized to appoint an alternate district associate judge to act in the temporary absence of a district associate judge. Such alternate is paid on a per diem basis by the state for days of actual service rendered. In 1985, an alternate district associate judge served in Dickinson, Marshall and Warren Counties.

The number of district associate judges by judicial election district and county is illustrated on the next page.

Judicial Election District	County	District Associate Judges
1A	Dubuque	2
1B	Black Hawk	3
2A	Cerro Gordo	1
2B	Marshall	1
2B	Webster	1
2B	Story	2
3A	Dickinson	1
3B	Woodbury	3
4	Pottawattamie	3
5A	Jasper	1
5A	Warren	1
5C	Polk	6
6	Johnson	1
6	Linn	4
7	Clinton	1
7	Muscatine	1
7	Scott	3
8A	Wapello	1
8B	Des Moines	2
8B	Lee	1
	TOTAL	39

Jurisdiction

District associate judges have the same jurisdiction as judicial magistrates. In addition, they have jurisdiction of:

1. Civil actions for money judgments where the amount in controversy does not exceed $3,000;

2. Indictable (serious and aggravated) misdemeanors; and

3. Juvenile cases when designated as a judge of the juvenile court by the chief judge of the judicial district.

While exercising such additional jurisdiction, they are not only required to employ district judges' practice and procedure but, as the cases are docketed with the clerk of the district court, they must be assigned and delivered to the judge with a calendar sheet on which to report the disposition of the case.

Trial by Jury and Appeal Provisions

A defendant charged with a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor is entitled to a trial by a six-member jury if he or she files a written jury demand at least ten days before the time set for trial. Failure to make such demand constitutes a waiver of jury. The plaintiff may appeal only upon a finding of invalidity of an ordinance or statute and the defendant only upon a judgment of conviction. If the original action was tried by a lay-magistrate, the district or district associate judge shall try the case anew; a case tried by a district judge, district associate judge or judicial magistrate admitted to the bar is appealed to a district judge on the record. Either party may appeal from the judgment of the district judge to the supreme court in the same manner as from a judgment in a prosecution by indictment.

A small claims action is tried before the judicial officer to whom it is assigned without the right to a jury. Either party may appeal to a district court judge who is required to hear the matter on the record. If it appears the trial record is incomplete, the district court judge may take additional testimony and evidence. The right of either party to appeal from the judgment of the district judge is entirely within the discretionary power of the supreme court.

District Court Judges

In January 1985, there were 99 district judges in Iowa. Under the judgeship formula computed in February 1985, 124 judgeships were authorized. However, the provisions of section 602.18, The Code, as amended, limited the maximum number of judgeships to 99. The latest computation of the judgeship formula (February 1986) which included for the first time juvenile as well as civil and criminal filings, authorized a total of 133 judgeships. The statutory formula and a copy of the application of the formula in 1985 and 1986 appear at pages 38 and 39 of this report.

For purposes of administration and ordinary judicial functions, the state is divided into eight judicial districts (Appendix D) and into 14 judicial election districts for purposes stated in the footnote to the map appearing on page 35. With 99 judges serving in the eight judicial districts, the population spread per judge ranges from 25,867 in the 5th District to 33,067 in the 4th. [Appendix C]

Jurisdiction

District judges possess the full jurisdiction of the trial court, including the jurisdiction of judicial magistrates. While exercising the latter, they are required to employ the practice and procedure for judicial magistrates. Under the Iowa Probate Code they are the only judges sitting in probate.

Senior Judges

Effective July 1, 1979, the Sixty-eighth General Assembly established a senior judge program whereby retired supreme court justices, court of appeals judges, district court judges and district associate judges who qualify agree to work up to 13 weeks per year until age 78. The supreme court may not assign a senior judge judicial duties on a court superior to the highest court to which he or she was appointed prior to retirement. A senior judge may not be assigned to the court of appeals or the supreme court except to serve in the temporary absence of a member of that court. A senior judge may not practice law.

While serving on temporary assignment, a senior judge is paid no salary but continues to receive monthly judicial retirement annuities. The senior judge program provides a hedge against inflation by mandating an increase in judicial annuity whenever the current salary of active judges is raised. There is no provision for an increase in judicial annuity for judges who do not participate in the senior judge program.

During 1985, two supreme court justices -- M. L. Mason and C. Edwin Moore -- eleven district court judges -- John N. Hughes, Nathan Grant, Paul E. Hellwege, Robert O. Frederick, Dale Missildine, R. K. Stohr, Charles W. Antes, Luther T. Glanton, Jr., Dennis D. Damsgaard, Ansel Chapman and T. H. Nelson -- and two district associate judges -- Ross Caniglia and Don A. Petrucelli -- served as senior judges in Iowa. In this report, the work of these judges is combined with the caseload of the judicial officers with whom they worked.

Clerk of District Court

The clerk's office in the 99 counties performed two important functions during 1985 which reduced the work load of the judicial officers in each county. These were:

1. Kept the small claims docket and, through the entry of confessions of judgment, default judgments and voluntary dismissals in actions for money judgment,

avoided the necessity of assigning many such cases to judicial officers. [Tables 12(d), 14(e) and 15]

2. Maintained a traffic violations office where scheduled violations were admitted and disposed of upon payment of the minimum fine and costs before the time specified for appearance before the court on a uniform citation and complaint issued to the alleged violator. [Table 16]

Judgeship Formula

Subsections 2 through 10 of section 602.6201, 1985 Iowa Code, relating to the determination of the number of judges in each of the 14 judicial election districts and the matter of filling judgeship vacancies, are as follows:

2. A district judge must be a resident of the judicial election district in which appointed and retained. Subject to the provision for reassignment of judges under section 602.6108, a district judge shall serve in the district of the judge's residence while in office, regardless of the number of judgeships to which the district is entitled under subsection 3.

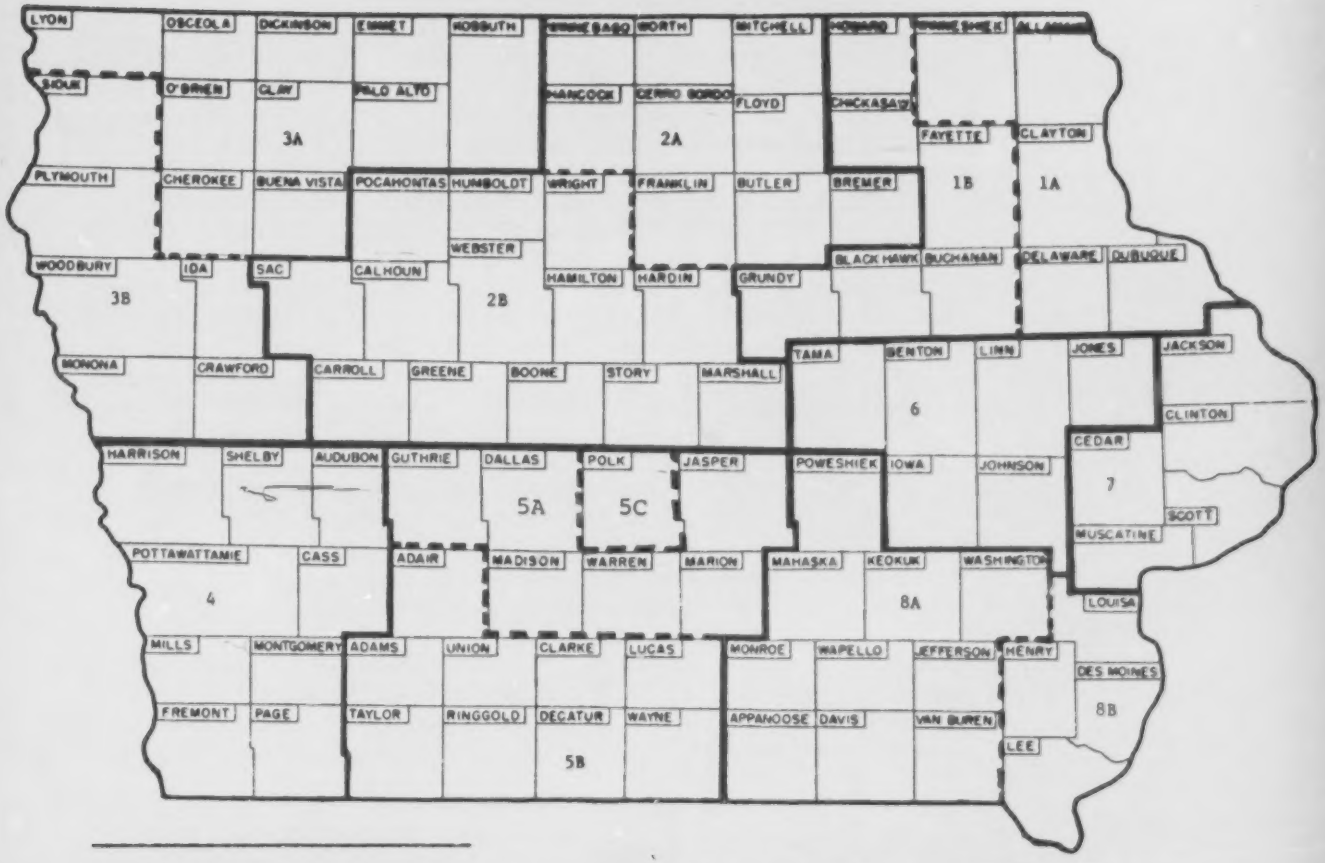
3. The number of judgeships to which each of the judicial election districts is entitled is determined according to the following formula:

   a. In an election district where the largest county contains two hundred thousand or more population, there is one judgeship per seven hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof. However, the seat of government is entitled to one additional judgeship.

   b. In an election district where the largest county contains eighty-five thousand or more population, but less than two hundred thousand, there is one judgeship per six hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

   c. In an election district where the largest county contains forty-five thousand or more population, but less than eighty-five thousand, there is one judgeship per five hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

IOWA'S 8 JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND 14 JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICTS*



*Judicial election districts are for the purpose of nomination, appointment and election of district judges, the application of the judgeship formula, the removal of magistrates and the appointment and election of district associate judges.

d. In an election district where the largest county contains less than forty-five thousand population, there is one judgeship per four hundred seventy-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

e. Notwithstanding paragraph "a," "b," "c," or "d," of this subsection, each election district is entitled to not less than one judgeship for each forty thousand population or major fraction thereof contained in the election district.

f. The filings included in the determinations to be made under this subsection shall include juvenile court filings after July 1, 1985, shall not include small claims or nonindictable misdemeanors, and shall not include either civil actions for money judgment where the amount in controversy does not exceed three thousand dollars or indictable misdemeanors, which were assigned to district associate judges and judicial magistrates as shown on their administrative reports, but shall include appeals from decisions of judicial magistrates, district associate judges, and district judges sitting as judicial magistrates. The figures on filings shall be the average for the latest available previous three-year period and when current census figures on population are not available, figures shall be taken from the state department of health computations.

4. For purposes of this section, a vacancy means the death, resignation, retirement or removal of a district judge, or the failure of a district judge to be retained in office at the judicial election, or an increase in judgeships under this section.

5. In those judicial election districts having more district judges than the number of judgeships specified by the formula in subsection 3, vacancies shall not be filled.

6. In those districts having fewer or the same number of district judges as the number of judgeships specified by the formula in subsection 3, vacancies in the number of district judges shall be filled as they occur.

7. In those judicial districts that contain more than one judicial election district, a vacancy in a judicial election district shall not be filled if the total number of district judges in all judicial election districts within the judicial district equals or exceeds the aggregate number of judgeships to which all of the judicial election districts of the judicial district are authorized.

8. Vacancies shall not be filled in a judicial election district which becomes entitled to fewer judgeships under subsection 3. But an incumbent district judge shall not be removed from office because of a reduction in the number of authorized judgeships.

9. During February of each year, and at other times as appropriate, the state court administrator shall make the determinations required under this section, and shall notify the appropriate nominating commissions and the governor of appointments that are required.

10. Notwithstanding the formula for determining the number of judgeships in this section, the number of district judges shall not exceed ninety-nine during the period commencing July 1, 1983 and ending as the general assembly shall specify.

The judgeship formula was amended by S.F.2123, 1986 Session, 71st General Assembly. The new formula gives equal weight to the population and filing factors rather than taking the greater of the two as provided by the formula above. The new formula authorizes one judge for every 550 combined civil and criminal filings (3-year average) in judicial election districts having a city of 50,000 or more population and one judge for every 450 such filings in a district not having a city that large. The population factor allows one judge for every 40,000 residents. The statutory lid on the number of district judges was raised by one, from 99 to 100, effective January 1, 1987.

THE APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.6201, SUBSECTION 3, 1983 IOWA CODE

Based on (1) three-year average combined civil (1982-84), with exclusions listed in section 602.6201, subsection 3, 1983 Iowa Code, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the judicial election district as appears in footnotes a, b, c and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire election district, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	NUMBER BASED ON (1) ABOVE	NUMBER BASED ON (2) ABOVE	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS*	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[b]	3,230 (5.17)	170,760 (4.27)	5	4
1B[b]	6,181 (9.89)	227,266 (5.68)	10	8
2A[c]	3,835 (7.30)	171,826 (4.30)	7	6
2B[c]	6,910 (13.16)	328,417 (8.21)	13	11
3A[d]	3,235 (6.81)	158,404 (3.96)	7	5
3B[b]	4,964 (7.94)	195,975 (4.90)	8	6
4[b]	5,504 (8.81)	198,726 (4.97)	9	6
5A[d]	3,633 (7.65)	155,065 (3.88)	8	3
5B[d]	2,241 (4.72)	80,481 (2.01)	5	4
5C[a]	10,402 (14.35)	303,170 (7.58)	15[e]	14[e]
6[b]	7,356 (11.77)	330,504 (8.26)	12	11
7[b]	7,772 (12.43)	298,718 (7.47)	12	10
8A[d]	3,862 (8.13)	174,242 (4.36)	8	6
8B[c]	2,886 (5.49)	120,254 (3.01)	5	5
STATE TOTALS	72,011	2,913,808	124	99

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 population - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional fraction.

*Although the 1985 computation of the judgeship formula created twenty-five (25) vacancies, the provisions of section 602.6201, subsection 10, 1983 Iowa Code, limits the maximum number of judgeships to ninety-nine (99) and, consequently, prohibits the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 20, 1985, by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, IA 50319.

THE APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.6201, SUBSECTION 3, 1985 IOWA CODE

Based on (1) three-year average combined civil, criminal and juvenile filings (1983-85), with exclusions listed in section 602.6201, subsection 3, 1985 Iowa Code, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the judicial election district as appears in footnotes a, b, c and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire election district, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	NUMBER BASED ON (1) ABOVE	NUMBER BASED ON (2) ABOVE	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS*	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[b]	3,165 (5.06)	169,100 (4.23)	5	4
1B[b]	6,310 (10.10)	225,500 (5.64)	10	8
2A[c]	4,045 (7.70)	169,800 (4.25)	8	6
2B[c]	7,688 (14.64)	324,400 (8.11)	15	11
3A[d]	3,722 (7.84)	156,300 (3.91)	8	5
3B[b]	5,750 (9.20)	196,400 (4.91)	9	6
4[b]	5,694 (9.11)	198,400 (4.96)	9	6
5A[d]	3,735 (7.86)	155,400 (3.89)	8	4
5B[d]	2,406 (5.07)	79,400 (1.99)	5	4
5C[a]	9,546 (13.17)	308,400 (7.71)	14[e]	13[e]
6[b]	8,302 (13.28)	331,300 (8.28)	13	11
7[b]	8,548 (13.68)	299,400 (7.49)	14	10
8A[d]	4,118 (8.67)	171,900 (4.30)	9	6
8B[c]	3,201 (6.10)	118,800 (2.97)	6	5
STATE TOTALS	76,230	2,904,500	133	99

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 population - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional fraction.

*Although the 1986 computation of the judgeship formula created thirty-four (34) vacancies, the provisions of section 602.6201, subsection 10, 1985 Iowa Code, limits the maximum number of judgeships to ninety-nine (99) and, consequently, prohibits the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 26, 1986, by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, IA 50319.

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS

Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

For the purpose of the following discussion, regular civil cases include all law, equity and special proceedings docketed in the office of the clerk except in the small claims docket. An appeal from a decision of a judicial magistrate in a small claims action also is considered a regular civil case.

Regular criminal cases include all felony and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated). A felony is a public offense which is, or in the discretion of the court may be, punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary, men's reformatory or women's reformatory. An indictable misdemeanor is a public offense, less than a felony, in which the punishment exceeds a fine of $100 or imprisonment for more than 30 days in the county jail. An appeal from a decision or verdict in a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor case becomes a regular criminal case when docketed by the clerk as a regular criminal action.

A total of 95,121 regular civil and criminal cases were docketed in the clerks' offices during 1985. This was a 6.1 percent increase from the 89,673 civil and criminal cases docketed in 1984. A comparison of cases docketed for 1984 and 1985 reveals that while criminal filings rose 1.2 percent (40,379 to 41,116) civil filings surged 9.6 percent (49,294 to 54,005).

A number of regular civil cases and indictable misdemeanors filed in district court were assigned to district associate judges for disposition. The total number of regular civil and indictable criminal dispositions by district and district associate judges in 1985 was 92,250 -- an increase of 1.2 percent over the 91,198 cases disposed of in 1984. There were 2,871 more cases pending December 31, 1985, than on January 1 of that year; the number of pending cases increased in all but the 1st, 4th and 8th Districts. [Tables 1, 2(a) and 3(a)]

District Judges' Activities

During 1985, district court judges disposed of 51,001 regular civil cases: 453 or 0.9 percent by trial to jury, 5,094 or 10.0 percent by trial to court, and 45,454 or 89.1 percent without trial. The number of civil dispositions per judge ranged from 437 in the 2nd District to 667 in the 4th. Statewide, there were 515 civil dispositions per district court judge, up from 498 in 1984. [Tables 2(a), (b) and (d)]

During 1985, district judges disposed of 17,973 regular criminal cases: 472 or 2.6 percent by trial to jury, 741 or 4.1 percent by trial to court and 16,760 or 93.3 percent without trial. The number of criminal dispositions per judge ranged from 132 in the 5th District to 277 in the 3rd. Statewide, there were 182 criminal dispositions per district court judge. [Tables 3(a), (b) and (d)]

The average number of civil and criminal cases disposed of per judge (692), with the rank of each district, is shown on Table 10. The 4th District recorded the highest number of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (880) while the 5th District had the lowest number of dispositions per judge (596).

District Associate Judges' Activities

There were 270 regular civil cases assigned to district associate judges during 1985 -- a 23.3 percent decrease from the 352 cases assigned in 1984. During 1985, the judges of limited jurisdiction disposed of 353 regular civil cases, 58 or 16.4 percent by trial to court, and 295 or 83.6 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 0 in the 4th District to 131 in the 1st. [Tables 2(a), (c) and (d)]

During 1985, 23,804 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors and simple misdemeanors on appeal) were assigned to district associate judges as compared to 21,433 assigned to such judicial officers in 1984. Of the 22,923 criminal cases disposed of by district associate judges in 1985, 296 or 1.3 percent were resolved by trial to jury, 273 or 1.2 percent by trial to court, and 22,354 or 97.5 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 453 in the 2nd District to 794 in the 6th. [Tables 3(a), (c) and (d)]

Civil and Criminal Filings by Case Type

Dissolution filings (and modifications) represented 31.2 percent (16,875) of the 54,005 civil cases docketed in the district court in 1985. [Table 4] These cases, combined with other actions involving domestic relations such as child support recovery (8,223) and domestic abuse (246), accounted for nearly one half (46.9 percent) of all civil cases filed in the district court.

Table 4 also shows that 727 (2.7 percent) of the 27,171 small claims rulings by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction were appealed on the record to the district court, pursuant to section 631.13, The Code. Such appeals comprised 1.3 percent of the civil case filings.

In the criminal area, the 16,285 first and second offense drunken driver cases (OWI--operating while intoxicated) embraced half of the indictable misdemeanor filings and 39.6 percent of all the regular criminal cases, i.e., felonies, indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated), and simple misdemeanors on appeal. [Table 5]

The 7,970 felony filings represented 19.0 percent of the 41,116 criminal cases docketed. Only 0.2 of one percent (572) of the 234,266 simple misdemeanors handled by district associate judges and magistrates were appealed to the district court for a new trial, pursuant to rule 54, Rules of Criminal Procedure. Such appeals comprised 1.4 percent of the criminal filings.

Pending Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

Of the 50,403 regular civil cases pending at the end of the year, 13,129 or 26 percent were over 18 months old. During 1985, the number of civil cases pending over 18 months increased by 45.3 or 3.6 percent. [Appendix A] The proportion of pending civil cases over 18 months old ranged from 18 percent in the 8th District to 34 percent in the 3rd. Except in the 1st, 4th and 8th Judicial Districts, there were more civil cases pending at the end of the year than at the beginning.

There were 244 more criminal cases pending on December 31, 1985, than on January 1. Of the 18,520 regular criminal cases pending at the end of 1985, 4,009 or 22 percent were over 18 months old -- 36 percent (6,728) had been pending 3 to 18 months. [Appendix B] The 3rd District had the highest percentage of cases pending over 90 days (69 percent); the 4th District had the lowest percentage of criminal cases over 90 days old (29 percent).

Probate Matters

The district judges exercise the probate jurisdiction of the unified trial court. There were 969 trusteeships opened in 1985 -- down 1.0 percent from the previous year. [Table 6(a)] The number of trusteeships opened ranged from 40 in the 4th District to 194 in the 6th. During 1985, 3,992 guardianships and conservatorships were opened -- up .5 percent from 1984; the number of cases ranged from 254 in the 4th to 938 in the 5th. Some 19,829 decedent estates were opened in 1985 -- an increase of 591 or 3.1 percent. The number of estates opened varied from 1,484 in the 4th District to 3,768 in the 2nd. Statewide, there were 5 jury trials and 273 trials to court in contested probate matters. [Table 6(a)]

Of the 17,420 estates closed during 1985, 56 percent were closed within one year, 32 percent from 1-3 years, and 12 percent after three years. The respective percentages for the 16,537 estates closed in 1984 were 54 percent, 34 percent and 12 percent. In 1985, 62 percent of the estates were settled within one year in the 1st District; in the 7th District 48 percent of the estates were closed within a year. [Table 6(b)] The number of decedents' estates closed during 1985 was 2,409 less than the number of new estates opened. [Table 6(a) and (b)]

Table 10 indicates the number of probate matters closed per judge in each district during 1985. The number of probate matters closed varied from 165 per judge in the 6th District to 283 per judge in the 3rd; the state average was 215.

Juvenile Matters

Juvenile matters are heard by district judges, judicial referees and district associate judges designated by the chief judge of the judicial district to act as judges of the juvenile court. There were 6,060 juvenile petitions filed in the district court clerks' offices during 1985 -- 39 fewer petitions than in 1984. [Table 7(a)] Juvenile petitions were classified into four general categories: delinquency (3,540), child in need of assistance or CHINA (2,447), family in need of assistance or FINA (21) and interstate compacts or extradition (52). Two-thirds of the FINA petitions were filed in the 5th District.

The number and type of formal hearings in juvenile matters are illustrated in Table 7(b). Figures show there were 3,460 adjudication hearings, 4,900 disposition hearings, 4,840 review hearings, 1,269 shelter/detention hearings and 3,028 other hearings, for a grand total of 17,497 -- up 2,002 from 1984. Fifty-four percent of the juvenile hearings were handled by district associate judges, 42 percent were conducted by referees and 4 percent by district judges.

Termination of Parental Rights

For statistical purposes, termination of parental rights cases were separated from regular juvenile matters involving delinquent children and minors or families in need of assistance. As indicated in Table 8, there were 797 petitions for termination of parental rights filed in the district court during 1985 -- a decrease of 95 cases from 1984. Twenty-six percent (211) involved involuntary or contested proceedings.

The largest number of termination cases (190) was docketed in the 5th District; the fewest petitions (32) were filed in the 4th District. There were 707 formal hearings held on these matters -- down 67 or 8.7 percent from 1984.

Hospitalization Hearings

Table 9 shows the number and type of hospitalization hearings. There were 4,199 hospitalization hearings in Iowa during 1984 -- 130 involuntary minor, 1,875 involuntary adult, 1,108 emergency and 1,086 substance abuse. Over three-fourths of the hearings were held by judicial hospitalization referees.

General Activity of District Associate Judges

Other than regular civil and criminal cases, termination of parental rights and juvenile matters discussed above, a total of 145,106 cases were docketed or assigned and 149,580 cases were disposed of by the 39 associate judges during 1985. There were 46,377 cases pending at the end of the year. The number of cases docketed and assigned ranged from 5,235 in the 8th District to 70,285 in the 5th. The total number of simple misdemeanor small claims cases pending at the end of the year varied from 638 in the 2nd District to 30,916 in the 5th. The number of each type of case filed, terminated and pending during 1985, appears in Tables 12(a) through 12(d).

As committing magistrates for indictable offenses, district associate judges conducted 17,551 initial appearance proceedings and 229 preliminary hearings in indictable criminal cases, pursuant to rule 2, Rules of Criminal Procedure. [Table 12(a)] Nearly three-fourths of the initial appearances were held in the 5th, 6th and 7th Districts; over two-thirds of the preliminary hearings by associate judges occurred in the 8th District.

There were 13,067 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) carried over from 1984. During 1985, 45,727 were docketed as compared to 45,740 in 1984. Of the 48,210 state cases terminated during 1985, the judges disposed of 57 or 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 1,846 or 3.8 percent by trial to court and 46,307 or 96.1 percent without trial. The number of simple misdemeanor state cases pending at the end of 1985 (10,584) was 2,483 less than the number pending at the beginning of the year. During 1985, the associate judges of the 5th District had by far the largest number of nonindictable state cases docketed, terminated and pending. [Table 12(b)]

Some 37,425 simple misdemeanor ordinance cases were pending from 1984. During 1985, 66,215 were docketed and 68,212 were disposed of: 15 or less than 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 2,003 or 2.9 percent by trial to court and 66,194 or 97.0 percent without trial. The number of pending cases decreased by 1,997 from 37,425 to 35,428. [Table 12(c)]

During 1985, district associate judges entertained 488 search warrant applications and conducted 515 seized property hearings. Over two-thirds of the applications for search warrants handled by district associate judges occurred in the 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th Districts; 55 percent of the seized property hearings occurred in the 1st District. [Table 14(d)] There were also 120 hospitalization hearings held by the 39 district associate judges. [Table 9]

There were 14,254 small claims assigned and 14,248 cases terminated by associate judges during 1985. [Table 12(d)] The judges resolved 5,164 or 36.2 percent by trial to the court and 9,084 or 63.8 percent without trial. Of those disposed of without trial, 8,324 or 91.6 percent were defaulted and 760 or 8.4 percent were either dismissed or transferred. Over half of the small claims cases handled by such judges were assigned and disposed of in the 5th District.

Magistrates

In 1985, 117,483 cases were docketed or assigned to 168 magistrates; they disposed of 117,844 or 701 cases per magistrate. [Table 13] The number of dispositions per magistrate ranged from 674 (7th District) to 1,220 (1st District). Approximately 29 percent of the cases pending at the end of the year were in the 1st District. [Note: Judicial districts vary in population from 198,400 (4th) to 543,200 (5th) and in the number of magistrates from 13 (7th) to 38 (2nd).]

As shown in Table 14(a), there were 12,232 initial appearances and 820 preliminary hearings conducted by magistrates in indictable criminal cases. While the largest number of such actions were in the 2nd District, magistrates in the 7th District and the fewest number of initial appearances and magistrates in the 6th District had the smallest number of preliminary hearings.

There were 74,982 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) docketed before magistrates in 1985. [Table 14(b)] The magistrates disposed of 75,020 cases -- 107 or 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 6,960 or 9.3 percent by trial to court, and 67,953 or 90.6 percent without trial. The 6th

District had the most jury trials (26) while the 1st District reported the least (7). There were 16,602 nonindictable cases docketed in the 2nd District; only 2,632 were docketed in the 7th District.

Statistics on nonindictable ordinance cases disclose that 42,501 cases were docketed, 42,824 were disposed, and 4,298 were still pending on December 31, 1985. Ninety-two percent of the ordinance cases were disposed of without a contested trial to a judge or jury. The 24 magistrates in the 1st District handled 16,365 ordinance cases while the 19 magistrates in the 5th District disposed of 2,266. [Table 14(c)] Over one-third of the filings and dispositions and half of the pending cases were in the 1st District.

Overall, magistrates terminated 117,844 simple misdemeanors in 1985 compared to 119,759 in 1984. Over two-thirds of the simple misdemeanors handled by all judicial officers involved traffic matters.

Magistrates entertained 675 applications for search warrants, conducted 393 seized property hearings and handled 6 lost property actions during 1985. [Table 14(d)] There were 666 search warrant applications and 328 seized property hearings before magistrates in 1984.

Statewide, for all judicial officers, the number of search warrant applications increased 10.9 percent (1,223 to 1,356) while the number of seized property hearings rose 17.7 percent (878 to 1,033) since 1984. Magistrates in the 2nd and 8th Districts received the largest number of search warrant applications while those in the 3rd District conducted the most seized property hearings. Considering the work of all judicial officers on these matters, the highest volume of applications for search warrants was in the 5th District; the 1st District had the highest number of seized property hearings.

As shown on Table 14(e), magistrates disposed of 12,923 small claims cases in 1985. Sixty-two percent (7,760) of the small claims were tried before the court; the remaining 5,163 cases (3,723 defaults and 1,440 dismissals or transfers) were disposed of without a trial. The 7th District had the largest number of small claims assigned to magistrates tried to court (2,853) and pending (305) before magistrates at the end of the year.

District Court Clerks

The 99 clerks of the district court played an important role not only in record keeping but in the handling of small claims (dismissals and defaults) and scheduled violations. As noted above, under the Unified Trial Court Act, district court clerks are authorized to docket and assign small claims and enter dismissals and defaults. Cases involving forcible entry and detainer must be handled by a judge.

District court clerks also are responsible for handling scheduled violations in which the defendant mails in or delivers his or her admission, scheduled fine, surcharge and court cost to the clerk's scheduled violations office before the time specified on the citation and complaint for court appearance. In addition, clerks are the custodians of collection boxes used at weigh stations for the deposit of fines and costs in cases involving weight and other non-moving scheduled violations of commercial carriers.

Table 15 shows that more small claims were disposed of by clerks (46,747) than judges (27,171). While clerks in the 2nd and 3rd Districts took care of three-fourths of the small claims terminated in their district, in the 4th District they handled only 51.7 percent of the small claims dispositions. Overall, 63.2 percent of the small claims were disposed of by district court clerks.

As noted in Table 16, the district court clerks disposed of 426,362 scheduled violations without the attention of assistance of any judicial officer -- almost exactly the same number processed by clerks in 1984. On the average, a district court clerk disposed of 4,307 scheduled violations in 1985. The number of scheduled violations ranged from 242 in Ringgold County to 94,198 in Polk County.

Summary of Trial Court Statistics

There were 54,005 regular civil cases (over $2,000 and small claims on appeal) and 41,116 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors, felonies and simple misdemeanors on appeal) filed in the district court during 1985. This represented a 9.6 percent increase in civil filings and a 1.8 percent increase in criminal filings since 1984. [Appendix F]

There was a total of 92,250 civil/criminal dispositions in 1985. The number of civil cases terminated rose by 1,609 or 3.2 percent (49,745 to 51,354); the number of criminal dispositions decreased 1.3 percent (41,453 to 40,896) from 1984 figures. There were 453 jury trials and 5,152 court trials of

civil cases; in criminal matters there were 768 jury trials and 1,014 court trials. Statistics show that 89.1 percent of the civil cases and 95.6 percent of the criminal cases were disposed of without trial.

There were 50,403 civil cases pending at the end of 1985 compared with 47,726 on January 1 -- an increase of 2,677 or 5.6 percent. The number of pending criminal cases increased 1.3 percent (18,276 to 18,520). Of the cases pending statewide, 51 percent of the civil cases and 36 percent of the criminal cases were 3 to 18 months old; 26 percent of the civil cases and 22 percent of the criminal cases were over 18 months old.

In 1985, there were 692 civil/criminal dispositions per district judge -- 12 less than in 1984. [Appendix I] District court judges in the 4th District had the highest rate of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (880); in the 5th District the average number of dispositions was 596. [Table 10]

A review of the type of cases docketed in the district court shows that 46.9 percent of the 54,005 civil filings involved domestic relations -- dissolutions and modifications (16,875), uniform support actions (8,223), and domestic abuse (246). [Table 4] Parenthetically, the largest category of criminal cases was first and second offense OWI (operating while intoxicated). OWI comprised 39.6 percent or 16,285 of the 41,116 criminal filings. [Table 5] Appeals of simple misdemeanors (572) and small claims appeals (727) represented only 1.4 percent of the criminal filings and 1.3 percent of the civil filings, respectively. Statistically, only 0.2 percent of the 234,266 simple misdemeanors and 2.7 percent of the 27,171 small claims cases disposed of by judicial officers were appealed to the district court for a second ruling.

The number of probate matters opened climbed slightly (24,190 to 24,790) during 1985; there were 969 trusteeships, 3,992 guardianships and conservatorships, and 19,829 estates. Corresponding figures for 1984 were 979, 3,973, and 19,238, respectively. The number of estates closed rose 5.3 percent from 16,537 to 17,420; 56 percent of the estates were closed within a one-year period.

Although there was a 0.6 percent decrease in the number of juvenile petitions filed (6,099 to 6,060) compared with 1984 figures, the number of formal juvenile hearings increased 12.9 percent (15,495 to 17,497). Over half of the juvenile hearings were conducted by juvenile referees; more than two out of five were handled by district associate judges; district judges were

credited with only 4 percent of the juvenile hearings. In addition to the regular juvenile cases, there were 797 petitions and 707 formal hearings involving termination of parental rights; there were 892 and 774 such matters the previous year.

The average district judge held 7 juvenile and 2 termination hearings, closed 215 probate matters; terminated 692 regular civil/criminal cases; and tried 68 contested civil/criminal cases during 1985. The average district associate judge held 186 juvenile and 6 termination hearings; terminated 597 civil/criminal cases; tried 16 contested civil/criminal matters; disposed of 2,985 simple misdemeanors and 365 small claims.

There were 234,266 nonindictable state and ordinance cases disposed of in 1985 -- up 4.4 percent from the number (224,312) handled in 1984. Ninety-four percent of the simple misdemeanor cases were disposed of without a contested trial. Judicial officers held 33,841 initial appearances in indictable criminal cases, conducted 1,089 preliminary hearings, entertained 1,356 applications for search warrants, conducted 1,033 seized property hearings, disposed of 13 lost property actions and handled 4,199 hospitalization hearings. Judicial officers disposed of 27,171 small claims actions while the clerks of the district court handled 46,747. There were 426,362 scheduled violations processed in the clerks' offices.

TABLE 1

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES[a] DOCKETED, DISPOSED OF[b] AND PENDING IN 1985 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984[c]

(Hereafter referred to as Regular Civil and Criminal Cases)

DISTRICT[b]	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31	CHANGE IN PENDING
1	8,638	12,441	12,753	8,326	-312
2	9,488	14,186	13,489	10,185	+697
3	9,187	11,503	10,822	9,868	+681
4	4,346	6,782	6,829	4,299	- 47
5	11,229	18,559	16,596	13,192	+1,963
6	8,691	12,228	11,816	9,103	+412
7	8,829	10,873	10,704	8,998	+169
8	5,644	8,549	9,241	4,952	-692
1985 Statewide	66,052[d]	95,121	92,250	68,923	+2,871
1984 Statewide	67,527	89,673	91,198	66,002	-1,525

a. Includes felonies and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and actions for money judgments, other than small claims, where the amount in controversy exceeds $2,000. Also includes simple misdemeanors and small claims appealed to the district court. Does not include juvenile or probate cases.

b. There were 15 senior judges, 99 district court judges, 39 district associate judges and three alternate district associate judges serving Iowa during all or part of 1985. In this report, the activity of the senior judges is included in the terminations by district and district associate judges with whom they worked. Dispositions by alternate district associate judges are combined with the productivity of district associate judges.

c. See map showing districts and 1983 population, Appendix D.

d. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1984, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(a) REGULAR CIVIL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1985 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] ASSIGNED TO	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	6,587	7,056	94	131	7,331	7,462	6,181
2	7,363	8,245	8	12	7,433	7,445	8,163
3	6,135	6,392	59	61	5,450	5,511	7,016
4	3,280	3,931	—	—	3,999	3,999	3,212
5	9,416	11,503	51	55	9,746	9,801	11,118
6	5,233	6,084	2	2	6,025	6,027	5,290
7	5,455	5,915	20	44	5,572	5,616	5,754
8	4,283	4,879	36	48	5,445	5,493	3,669
1985 Statewide	47,752	54,005	270	353	51,001	51,354	50,403
1984 Statewide	48,177[b]	49,294	352	421	49,324	49,745	47,726

a. Includes the work of 39 district associate judges and three part-time alternate district associate judges. The nine district associate judges substituting for judicial magistrates served Polk (2), Dickinson, Story, Woodbury, Warren, Linn, Pottawattamie and Des Moines Counties during 1985; alternate district associate judges served in Dickinson, Marshall and Warren Counties. As district associate judges serving in lieu of magistrates have the same qualifications, jurisdiction and responsibilities as the other district associate judges, they are considered one and the same and counted as regular district associate judges in these tables.

b. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1984, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(b) REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1985
With Totals Compared to Those of 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	7,331	68	0.9%	543	6.0%	6,720	91.7%
2	17	7,433	62	0.8%	838	11.3%	6,533	87.9%
3	11	5,450	50	0.9%	383	7.0%	5,017	92.1%
4	6	3,999	38	1.0%	426	10.6%	3,535	88.4%
5	21	9,746	112	1.1%	984	10.1%	8,650	88.8%
6	11	6,025	60	1.0%	524	8.7%	5,441	90.3%
7	10	5,572	33	0.6%	548	9.8%	4,991	89.6%
8	11	5,445	30	0.5%	848	15.6%	4,567	83.9%
1985 Statewide	99	51,001	453	0.9%	5,094	10.0%	45,454	89.1%
1984 Statewide	99	49,324	430	0.9%	4,898	9.9%	43,996	89.2%

TABLE 2

(c) REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1985
With Totals Compared to Those of 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	131	—	—	7	5.3%	124	94.7%
2	5	12	—	—	11	91.7%	1	8.3%
3	4	61	—	—	4	6.6%	57	93.4%
4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	8	55	—	—	19	34.5%	36	65.5%
6	5	2	—	—	1	50.0%	1	50.0%
7	5	44	—	—	2	4.5%	42	95.5%
8	4	48	—	—	14	29.2%	34	70.8%
1985 Statewide	39	353	—	0.0%	58	16.4%	295	83.6%
1984 Statewide	39	421	10	2.4%	44	10.4%	367	87.2%

TABLE 2

(d) REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1985 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	7,331	611	5	131	26
2	17	7,433	437	5	12	2
3	11	5,450	495	4	61	15
4	6	3,999	667	3	—	—
5	21	9,746	464	8	55	7
6	11	6,025	548	5	2	4
7	10	5,572	557	5	44	9
8	11	5,445	496	4	48	12
1985 Statewide	99	51,001	515	39	353	9
1984 Statewide	99	49,324	498	39	421	11

TABLE 3

(a) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1985 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	ASSOCIATE JUDGES* ASSIGNED TO	ASSOCIATE JUDGES* DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	2,051	5,385	3,750	3,510	1,781	5,291	2,145
2	2,125	5,941	2,433	2,267	3,777	6,044	2,022
3	3,052	5,111	2,431	2,262	3,049	5,311	2,852
4	1,066	2,851	1,624	1,551	1,279	2,830	1,087
5	1,813	7,056	4,062	4,028	2,767	6,795	2,074
6	3,458	6,144	4,180	3,970	1,819	5,789	3,813
7	3,374	4,958	3,299	3,344	1,744	5,088	3,244
8	1,361	3,670	2,025	1,991	1,757	3,748	1,283
1985 Statewide	18,300[a]	41,116	23,804	22,923	17,973	40,896	18,520
1984 Statewide	19,350	40,379	21,433	21,071	20,382	41,453	18,276

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1984, due to inventory corrections.

* Includes the work of district associate judges who handle indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated).

TABLE 3

(b) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1985
With Totals Compared to Those of 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	1,781	34	1.9%	131	7.4%	1,616	90.7%
2	17	3,777	88	2.3%	135	3.6%	3,554	94.1%
3	11	3,049	32	1.0%	24	.8%	2,993	98.2%
4	6	1,279	23	1.8%	17	1.3%	1,239	96.9%
5	21	2,767	81	2.9%	101	3.7%	2,585	93.4%
6	11	1,819	53	2.9%	103	5.7%	1,663	91.4%
7	10	1,744	112	6.4%	125	7.2%	1,507	86.4%
8	11	1,757	49	2.8%	105	6.0%	1,603	91.2%
1985 Statewide	99	17,973	472	2.6%	741	4.1%	16,760	93.3%
1984 Statewide	99	20,382	459	2.3%	1,041	5.1%	18,882	92.6%

TABLE 3

(c) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF BY OTHER JUDGES*

Methods of Disposition During 1985
With Totals Compared to Those of 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	3,510	17	0.5%	31	0.9%	3,462	98.6%
2	5	2,267	51	2.2%	13	0.6%	2,203	97.2%
3	4	2,262	16	0.7%	46	2.0%	2,200	97.3%
4	3	1,551	9	0.6%	9	0.6%	1,533	98.8%
5	8	4,028	77	1.9%	36	0.9%	3,915	97.2%
6	5	3,970	61	1.5%	21	0.5%	3,888	98.0%
7	5	3,344	34	1.0%	17	0.5%	3,293	98.5%
8	4	1,991	31	1.6%	100	5.0%	1,860	93.4%
1985 Statewide	39	22,923	296	1.3%	273	1.2%	22,354	97.5%
1984 Statewide	39	21,071	201	1.0%	295	1.4%	20,575	97.6%

*Includes the work of district associate judges who handle indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated).

TABLE 3

(d) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1985 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	1,781	148	5	3,510	702
2	17	3,777	222	5	2,267	453
3	11	3,049	277	4	2,262	566
4	6	1,279	213	3	1,551	517
5	21	2,767	132	8	4,028	504
6	11	1,819	165	5	3,970	794
7	10	1,744	174	5	3,344	669
8	11	1,757	160	4	1,991	498
1985 Statewide	99	17,973	182	39	22,923	588
1984 Statewide	99	20,382	206	39	21,071	540

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1985
BY TYPE OF CASE WITH TOTALS
COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	DISSOLUTIONS		UNIFORM SUPPORT		DOMESTIC ABUSE		OTHER EQUITY AND LAW		SMALL CLAIMS APPEALS		TOTAL	
1	1,735	(1,923)	1,608	(1,539)	14	(9)	3,610	(3,878)	89	(113)	7,056	(7,462)
2	2,542	(2,497)	1,435	(1,148)	29	(21)	4,088	(3,654)	151	(125)	8,245	(7,445)
3	1,708	(1,486)	1,068	(836)	88	(69)	3,436	(3,033)	92	(87)	6,392	(5,511)
4	1,217	(1,261)	686	(821)	--	--	1,986	(1,872)	42	(45)	3,931	(3,999)
5	3,792	(3,378)	1,243	(856)	77	(7)	6,238	(5,333)	153	(227)	11,503	(9,801)
6	2,029	(2,100)	602	(644)	12	(14)	3,368	(3,200)	73	(69)	6,084	(6,027)
7	2,079	(2,088)	997	(835)	12	(10)	2,760	(2,627)	67	(56)	5,915	(5,616)
8	1,773	(2,069)	584	(710)	14	(16)	2,448	(2,636)	60	(62)	4,879	(5,493)
1985 Statewide	16,875	(16,802)	8,223	(7,389)	246	(146)	27,934	(26,233)	727	(784)	54,005	(51,354)
1984 Statewide	16,595	(16,336)	7,029	(7,418)	132	(133)	24,806	(25,141)	732	(717)	49,294	(49,735)

Legend: Dissolutions -- original actions and modifications.
Uniform Support — actions pursuant to the Uniform Support of Dependents Law. (URESA), Chapter 252A, The Code.

TABLE 5

NUMBER OF CRIMINAL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS) IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1985 BY CASE TYPE WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	OWI (1st/2nd)		OTHER INDICTABLE MISDEMEANORS		FELONIES		SIMPLE MISDEMEANOR APPEALS		TOTAL	
1	2,302	(2,221)	1,993	(1,999)	1,037	(1,007)	53	(64)	5,385	(5,291)
2	2,423	(2,536)	2,198	(2,231)	1,239	(1,202)	81	(75)	5,941	(6,044)
3	2,122	(2,179)	1,857	(1,913)	1,072	(1,111)	60	(108)	5,111	(5,311)
4	1,018	(1,027)	1,270	(1,219)	502	(525)	61	(59)	2,851	(2,830)
5	2,536	(2,359)	3,328	(3,196)	1,081	(1,131)	111	(109)	7,056	(6,795)
6	2,524	(2,371)	2,351	(2,251)	1,159	(1,057)	110	(110)	6,144	(5,789)
7	2,040	(2,158)	1,954	(1,912)	933	(993)	31	(25)	4,958	(5,088)
8	1,320	(1,326)	1,338	(1,374)	947	(978)	65	(70)	3,670	(3,748)
1985 Statewide	16,285	(16,177)	16,289	(16,095)	7,970	(8,005)	572	(620)	41,116	(40,896)
1984 Statewide	16,379	(16,099)	15,703	(15,617)	7,658	(8,858)	639	(879)	40,379	(41,453)

Legend: OWI — operating while intoxicated.
Other indictable misdemeanors — includes serious and aggravated misdemeanors other than OWI.

TABLE 6

(a) PROBATE MATTERS

NUMER OPENED AND TRIALS ON CONTESTS DURING 1985
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TRUSTEESHIPS OPENED	GUARDIANSHIPS & CONSERVATORSHIPS OPENED	ESTATES OPENED	TRIALS TO	
					JURY	COURT
1	12	107	484	2,488	—	15
2	17	171	661	3,768	2	68
3	11	149	470	2,707	1	23
4	6	40	254	1,484	—	5
5	21	144	938	3,110	3	59
6	11	194	514	2,342	1	16
7	10	71	303	1,655	—	30
8	11	93	368	2,275	—	57
1985 Statewide	99	969	3,992	19,829	7	273
1984 Statewide	99	979	3,973	19,238	5	207

TABLE 6

(b) DECEDENTS' ESTATES CLOSED*

NUMBER CLOSED DURING 1985 AND AGE AT TIME OF CLOSING
WITH TOTALS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	ESTATES CLOSED	PERCENT WITHIN 1 YEAR	PERCENT FROM 1-3 YEARS	AFTER 3 YEARS
1	2,330	62%	29%	9%
2	3,347	52%	35%	13%
3	2,632	57%	32%	10%
4	1,189	54%	33%	13%
5	2,804	57%	34%	9%
6	1,341	54%	36%	10%
7	1,366	48%	28%	24%
8	2,411	60%	29%	11%
1985 Statewide	17,420	56%	32%	12%
1984 Statewide	16,537	54%	34%	12%

*In addition, there were 507 trusteeships and 3,374 guardianships and conservatorships closed in 1985.

TABLE 7

(a) NUMBER AND TYPE OF JUVENILE PETITIONS

FILED DURING 1985 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	DELINQUENCY	CHINA	FINA	IC	TOTAL
1	275	246	1	—	522
2	333	369	2	4	708
3	687	215	1	1	904
4	184	158	—	4	346
5	753	557	14	25	1,349
6	450	228	—	—	678
7	431	318	2	16	767
8	427	356	1	2	786
1985 Statewide	3,540	2,447	21	52	6,060
1984 Statewide	3,538	2,501	38	22	6,099

Legend: CHINA — Child in need of assistance.
FINA — Family in need of assistance.
IC — Interstate compacts (extradition).
(For definition of these terms, see section 232.2, The Code.)

TABLE 7

(b) NUMBER OF FORMAL HEARINGS

IN JUVENILE MATTERS DURING 1985
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	ADJUDICATION	DISPOSITION	REVIEW	D/S	OTHER	TOTAL
1	479	456	488	202	220	1,845
2	361	681	402	73	639	2,156
3	434	399	432	123	321	1,709
4	331	173	278	75	218	1,075
5	659	1,267	663	128	233	2,950
6	409	628	1,418	388	961	3,804
7	406	867	435	209	211	2,128
8	381	429	724	71	225	1,830
1985 Statewide	3,460	4,900	4,840	1,269	3,028	17,497
1984 Statewide	3,269	4,368	3,809	1,264	2,785	15,495

Legend: Adjudication hearing -- Section 232.2(2), The Code.
Disposition hearing -- Section 232.2(16), The Code.
Review hearing -- Section 212.102(6), The Code.
D/S -- Detention/Shelter hearing -- Section 232.2(14)(46), The Code.
Other -- Includes such proceedings as: hearings on motions for change of venue and placement, motions for evaluation, change of counsel, motions to continue or suppress evidence and contempt of court and probation violation hearings.

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED AND NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS HELD IN CASES INVOLVING VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, 1985

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED	NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS		
		TRIAL DETERMINATION	REVIEW	TOTAL
1 V*	83	53	—	53
I**	17	26	6	32
2 V	72	57	8	65
I	39	36	6	42
3 V	82	36	—	36
I	18	18	—	18
4 V	16	8	1	9
I	26	24	6	30
5 V	152	135	6	141
I	38	27	5	32
6 V	72	51	13	64
I	47	34	19	53
7 V	65	47	6	53
I	7	9	—	9
8 V	44	40	6	46
I	19	20	4	24
1985 V	586	427	40	467
Statewide I	211	194	46	240
Totals	797	621	86	707

*V — Voluntary or uncontested termination proceeding.
**I — Involuntary or contested termination proceeding.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOSPITALIZATION HEARINGS DURING 1985
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	INVOLUNTARY MINOR	INVOLUNTARY ADULT	EMERGENCY	SUBSTANCE ABUSE	TOTAL
1	37	309	271	247	864
2	12	387	228	208	835
3	12	211	142	115	480
4	—	69	56	35	160
5	16	201	105	171	493
6	28	313	140	185	666
7	17	193	99	62	371
8	8	192	67	63	330
1985 Statewide	130	1,875	1,108	1,086	4,199
1984 Statewide	115	2,056	1,118	930	4,219

TABLE 10

COMPARISON OF TOTAL 1985 CASELOAD PER DISTRICT JUDGE WITH RANK OF DISTRICT IN EACH CATEGORY SHOWN IN PARENTHESIS

(Adjusted to the nearest whole case of matter.)

DISTRICT	JUDGES	REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES (Per Judge) DISPOSED OF[a]		PROBATE MATTERS (Per Judge) CLOSED[b]		JUVENILE MATTERS (Per Judge) HEARINGS[c]	
1	12	759	(3)	232	(4)	.3	(8)
2	17	659	(6)	231	(5)	.6	(6)
3	11	773	(2)	283	(1)	1	(5)
4	6	880	(1)	242	(3)	3	(4)
5	21	596	(8)	171	(6)	22	(1)
6	11	713	(4)	165	(8)	16	(2)
7	10	692	(5)	168	(7)	5	(3)
8	11	655	(7)	266	(2)	.4	(7)
1985 Statewide	99	692		215		7	
1984 Statewide	99	704		206		8	

a. Computed from the sum of such cases disposed of by district court judges as shown by Tables 2(b) and 3(b).

b. Includes trusteeships, guardianships, conservatorships and estates closed in the district court.

c. Includes various types of juvenile hearings in cases involving delinquency, child and/or family assistance and interstate compacts. Does not include hearings in termination of parental rights cases.

TABLE 11

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES ON MATTERS OTHER THAN REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND JUVENILE CASES 1985

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	5	1,376	13,842	13,710	1,508
2	5	556	8,269	8,187	638
3	4	1,482	12,137	11,956	1,663
4	3	1,358	4,376	4,602	1,132
5	8	37,533	70,295	76,912	30,916
6	5	5,198	17,758	16,899	6,057
7	5	2,636	13,194	12,281	3,549
8	4	712	5,235	5,033	914
1985 Statewide	39	50,851	145,106	149,580	46,377
1984 Statewide	39	44,710	142,239	136,098	50,851

a. Includes nonindictable (simple) misdemeanors, lost property actions, small claims, initial appearances, preliminary hearings, search warrant applications and seized property and hospitalization hearings. Pending figures include misdemeanors and small claims only.

NOTE: For complete and detailed information on the various types of cases combined in this table, see Tables 12(a) through (12(d), 14(d) and 9.

TABLE 12

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[a]

1985 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	NUMBER OF	
		INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	5	1,265	17
2	5	1,038	4
3	4	1,813	1
4	3	—	—
5	8	5,902	48
6	5	3,380	—
7	5	3,194	1
8	4	959	158
1985 Statewide	39	17,551	229
1984 Statewide	39	17,001	251

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 12

(b) NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1985 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
						GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	1,089	4,341	12	139	3,072	1,056	1,151
2	5	293	2,894	5	166	2,063	554	399
3	4	919	5,410	—	328	3,178	1,714	1,109
4	3	1,021	2,021	5	17	1,499	686	835
5	8	5,455	17,101	18	469	13,546	6,430	2,093
6	5	2,259	5,653	7	240	3,661	1,465	2,539
7	5	1,625	6,596	10	465	4,609	1,232	1,905
8	4	406	1,711	—	22	1,050	492	553
1985 Statewide	39	13,067	45,727	57	1,846	32,678	13,629	10,584
1984 Statewide	39	9,882	45,740	86	1,677	29,789	11,006	13,067

TABLE 12

(c) NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1985 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
						GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	219	6,316	1	200	4,343	1,710	281
2	5	235	3,652	5	196	2,912	548	226
3	4	540	4,318	2	285	3,277	762	532
4	3	259	899	1	25	626	276	230
5	8	32,077	39,552	2	777	26,506	15,522	28,822
6	5	2,782	6,564	1	302	5,128	579	3,336
7	5	1,011	3,253	3	204	1,794	619	1,644
8	4	302	1,661	—	14	1,268	324	357
1985 Statewide	39	37,425	66,215	15	2,003	45,854	20,340	35,428
1984 Statewide	39	34,476	64,944	22	1,763	44,201	16,009	37,425

TABLE 12

(d) SMALL CLAIMS

1985 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	68	1,521	469	843	201	76
2	5	28	568	351	177	55	13
3	4	23	550	219	259	73	22
4	3	78	1,404	586	698	131	67
5	8	1	7,578	2,192	5,378	8	1
6	5	157	1,920	1,106	513	276	182
7	5	—	62	58	4	—	—
8	4	4	651	183	452	16	4
1985 Statewide	39	359	14,254	5,164	8,324	760	365
1984 Statewide	39	352	13,233	5,170	7,355	701	359

TABLE 13

TOTAL ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES DURING 1985
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	MAGISTRATES ACTUAL[a]	(AUTHORIZED)	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED[b]	DISPOSED	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	24[c]	(23)	4,430	30,251	30,424	4,257
2	35	(38)	1,836	28,345	28,114	2,067
3	26[c]	(30)	1,710	19,667	19,783	1,594
4	16	(19)	1,177	14,780	14,872	1,085
5	19[c]	(27)	1,180	13,644	13,499	1,325
6	14	(17)	1,717	16,822	16,825	1,714
7	13	(13)	1,759	7,741	8,672	828
8	21	(24)	1,614	17,045	16,804	1,855
1985 Statewide	168	(191)	15,423[d]	148,295	148,993	14,725
1984 Statewide	166	(191)	13,486	153,220	150,972	15,734

a. The 1985 figures indicate the actual number of magistrates serving in each district; figures in parenthesis show the number of magistrate positions authorized. See footnote a, Table 2(a) for counties using substitute district associate judges and Appendix E for the July 1, 1985, allocation of magistrates. The 1985 activity of district associate judges substituting for magistrates is included in the work load of regular district associate judges as illustrated in Table 11 rather than the business of magistrates presented in this table.

b. For purposes of this table, all search warrant applications, seized property hearings, lost property actions, preliminary hearings, initial appearances and hospitalization hearings docketed in 1985 were considered disposed of by the end of the year. Pending figures refer only to small claims and simple misdemeanors (nonindictable state and ordinance cases).

c. During 1985, Ida, Adair, Howard and Monona Counties exercised the option provided in section 602.6402, The Code, and divided their one magistrate position into two jobs leaving 168 magistrates to fill 164 salaried positions.

d. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1984, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

1985 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	1,763	98
2	4,042	227
3	2,208	40
4	1,259	213
5	1,768	114
6	1,909	19
7	343	22
8	2,998	127
1985 Statewide	16,290	860
1984 Statewide	16,007	999

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 14

(b) NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1985 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	1,871	11,061	7	866	7,112	3,070	1,877
2	1,344	16,602	13	1,865	10,661	3,863	1,544
3	1,414	11,071	10	726	7,732	2,690	1,327
4	808	7,591	8	713	4,776	2,273	629
5	1,020	8,295	15	842	5,859	1,447	1,152
6	1,325	8,981	26	839	6,231	1,853	1,357
7	677	2,632	8	325	1,848	831	297
8	1,175	8,749	20	784	6,104	1,603	1,413
1985 Statewide	9,634[a]	74,982	107	6,960	50,323	17,630	9,596
1984 Statewide	8,793	76,881	152	6,756	52,404	16,412	9,950

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1984, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(c) NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1985 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	2,537	16,132	16	687	10,855	4,757	2,354
2	334	4,847	1	500	3,816	514	350
3	215	4,543	2	284	3,632	659	181
4	337	4,971	2	324	3,707	841	434
5	134	2,267	4	525	1,486	251	135
6	299	4,251	4	365	3,163	762	256
7	409	2,229	1	211	1,740	460	226
8	356	3,261	4	418	2,591	242	362
1985 Statewide	4,621	42,501	34	3,314	30,990	8,486	4,298
1984 Statewide	3,687	44,966	27	3,458	31,826	8,724	4,618

TABLE 14

(d) SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS AND SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS BY TYPE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER

1985 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

	SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS				SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS			
DISTRICT	DJ	DAJ	M	TOTAL	DJ	DAJ	M	TOTAL
1	51	75	42	168	7	284	54	345
2	2	43	141	186	—	—	61	61
3	—	40	129	169	—	—	138	138
4	2	42	28	72	1	9	29	39
5	87	108	117	312	110	—	10	120
6	2	88	21	111	7	153	8	168
7	20	65	12	97	—	8	18	26
8	29	27	185	241	—	61	75	136
1985 Statewide	193	488	675	1,356	125	515	393	1,033
1984 Statewide	167	390	666	1,223	68	482	328	878

Legend: DJ -- District Judges
DAJ — District Associate Judges
M — Magistrates

There were also 6 lost property actions handled by magistrates and 7 such actions disposed of by district associate judges in 1985.

TABLE 12

(d) SMALL CLAIMS

1985 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
				DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	22	1,101	689	325	83	26
2	158	2,425	1,595	535	280	173
3	81	1,538	890	391	252	86
4	32	683	368	279	46	22
5	26	1,071	818	160	81	38
6	93	1,633	779	629	217	101
7	673	2,485	1,708	786	359	305
8	83	1,650	913	618	122	80
1985 Statewide	1,168[a]	12,586	7,760	3,723	1,440	831
1984 Statewide	1,006	12,938	7,626	3,746	1,406	1,166

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1984, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 15

SMALL CLAIMS DOCKET MAINTAINED BY THE CLERK DURING 1985
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY		PENDING DECEMBER 31
			CLERK	JUDICIAL OFFICERS[a]	
1	1,632	8,556	6,072	2,610	1,506
2	1,915	12,173	8,847	2,993	2,248
3	1,329	9,054	7,085	2,084	1,214
4	714	4,398	2,252	2,108	752
5	2,454	17,855	9,438	8,637	2,234
6	1,271	7,948	4,333	3,520	1,366
7	1,102	7,133	4,513	2,915	807
8	1,175	6,635	4,207	2,304	1,299
1985 Statewide	11,592	73,752	46,747	27,171	11,426
1984 Statewide	11,380	71,666	45,296	26,152	11,598

a. Includes small claims dispositions by magistrates and judges.

TABLE 16

NUMBER OF SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS[a]

Handled Exclusively by the District Court Clerks (per county)

County	Number 1985	Number 1984
Adair	1,696	2,050
Adams	1,004	1,027
Allamakee	1,062	1,345
Appanoose	885	1,226
Audubon	453	627
Benton	3,749	3,679
Black Hawk	13,982	16,397
Boone	2,575	2,561
Bremer	2,187	2,509
Buchanan	1,993	2,758
Buena Vista	3,422	2,621
Butler	1,680	1,697
Calhoun	760	728
Carroll	3,250	3,539
ss	4,288	2,832
Cedar	14,563	12,576
Cerro Gordo	10,589	8,763
Cherokee	1,833	1,668
Chickasaw	1,877	1,791
Clarke	6,441	6,177
Clay	2,554	2,993
Clayton	2,761	2,829
Clinton	5,463	4,547
Crawford	2,968	2,351
Dallas	4,627	4,361
Davis	1,258	1,203
Decatur	1,926	2,071
Delaware	3,720	3,382
Des Moines	4,435	3,407
Dickinson	3,107	3,129
Dubuque	6,049	4,784
Emmet	636	811
Fayette	2,910	3,736
Floyd	1,949	1,733
Franklin	3,841	4,095
Fremont	1,843	1,939
Greene	1,354	1,379
Grundy	1,851	1,621
Guthrie	639	633
Hamilton	4,521	4,260
Hancock	1,007	1,339
Hardin	2,144	2,480
Harrison	5,530	4,395
Henry	2,494	2,757
Howard	896	844
Humboldt	864	947
Ida	885	911
Iowa	3,400	3,368
Jackson	2,060	1,849
Jasper	4,557	4,882
Jefferson	2,210	2,438
Johnson	16,156	16,539
Jones	1,969	1,741
Keokuk	427	393
Kossuth	1,268	1,366
Lee	3,565	4,492
Linn	18,965	17,342
Louisa	1,040	1,082
Lucas	906	939
Lyon	948	1,079
Madison	1,272	1,406
Mahaska	2,904	2,623
Marion	5,273	4,406
Marshall	3,893	3,712
Mills	2,056	3,028
Mitchell	720	798
Monona	1,315	1,317
Monroe	1,477	1,310
Montgomery	1,508	1,682
Muscatine	4,155	3,668
O'Brien	1,593	1,663
Osceola	913	884
Page	814	1,106
Palo Alto	965	1,215
Plymouth	3,435	3,438
Pocahontas	636	794
Polk	94,198	90,852
Pottawattamie	14,304	17,034
Poweshiek	2,711	3,077
Ringgold	242	298
Sac	2,487	2,330
Scott	20,297	19,148
Shelby	1,259	1,605
Sioux	2,694	3,048
Story	7,940	7,929
Tama	3,256	3,744
Taylor	431	513
Union	2,000	2,476
VanBuren	531	535
Wapello	3,344	4,487
Warren	3,974	4,093
Washington	1,746	2,085
Wayne	819	913
Webster	2,886	3,279
Winnebago	558	524
Winneshiek	1,138	1,707
Woodbury	14,062	14,484
Worth	3,754	4,943
Wright	723	851
TOTALS	426,302	426,023

a. Scheduled violations are defined in section 805.8, The Code.

APPENDIX A

NUMBER AND AGE OF CIVIL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1985
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	6,181	1,753 (28%)	2,861 (46%)	1,567 (25%)
2	8,163	2,191 (27%)	4,071 (50%)	1,901 (23%)
3	7,016	1,270 (18%)	3,355 (48%)	2,391 (34%)
4	3,212	758 (24%)	1,689 (53%)	765 (24%)
5	11,118	2,325 (21%)	5,816 (52%)	2,977 (27%)
6	5,290	1,198 (23%)	2,908 (55%)	1,184 (22%)
7	5,754	991 (17%)	3,069 (53%)	1,694 (30%)
8	3,669	861 (23%)	2,158 (59%)	650 (18%)
1985 Statewide	50,403	11,347 (23%)	25,927 (51%)	13,129 (26%)
1984 Statewide	47,726	10,683 (22%)	24,367 (51%)	12,676 (27%)

a. Includes civil cases above a small claim and small claims on appeal.

APPENDIX B

NUMBER AND AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1985
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1984

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	2,145	992 (46%)	667 (31%)	486 (23%)
2	2,022	933 (46%)	757 (38%)	332 (16%)
3	2,852	887 (31%)	1,165 (41%)	800 (28%)
4	1,087	775 (71%)	212 (20%)	100 (9%)
5	2,074	1,200 (58%)	678 (33%)	196 (9%)
6	3,813	1,278 (33%)	1,523 (40%)	1,012 (27%)
7	3,244	1,183 (36%)	1,134 (35%)	927 (29%)
8	1,283	535 (42%)	592 (46%)	156 (12%)
1985 Statewide	18,520	7,783 (42%)	6,728 (36%)	4,009 (22%)
1984 Statewide	18,276	7,646 (42%)	6,564 (36%)	4,066 (22%)

a. Includes criminal cases above a small misdemeanor and simple misdemeanors on appeal.

APPENDIX C

POPULATION PER DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

DISTRICT	JUDGES	DISTRICT POPULATION[a]	POPULATION PER JUDGE
1	12	394,600	32,883
2	17	494,200	29,071
3	11	352,700	32,064
4	6	198,400	33,067
5	21	543,200	25,867
6	11	331,300	30,118
7	10	299,400	29,940
8	11	290,700	26,427
Statewide	99	2,904,500	29,338

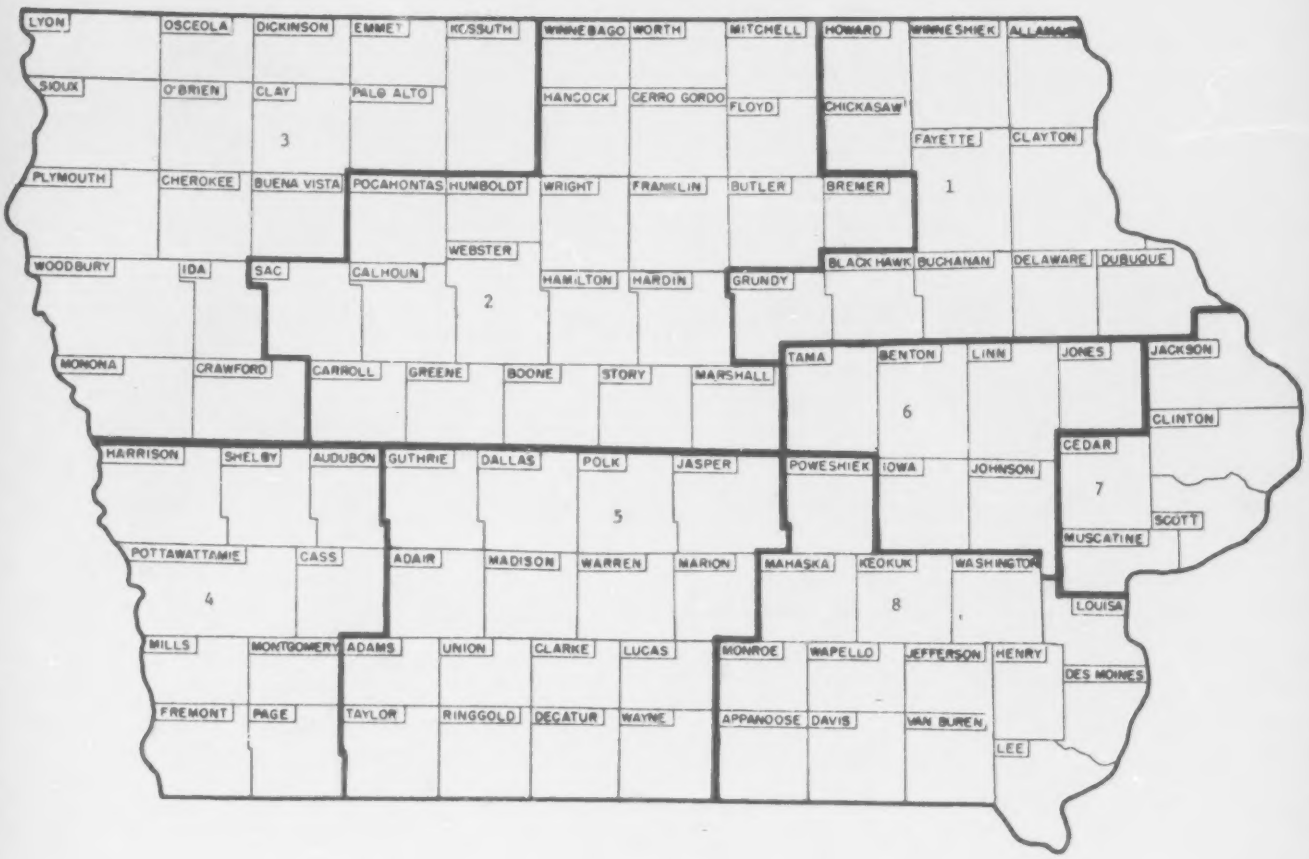
a. Official 1983 population statistics -- U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

APPENDIX D

IOWA'S EIGHT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS — POPULATION*

First District	394,600	Fifth District	543,200
Second District	494,200	Sixth District	331,300
Third District	352,700	Seventh District	299,400
Fourth District	198,400	Eighth District	290,700

STATE TOTAL — 2,904,500

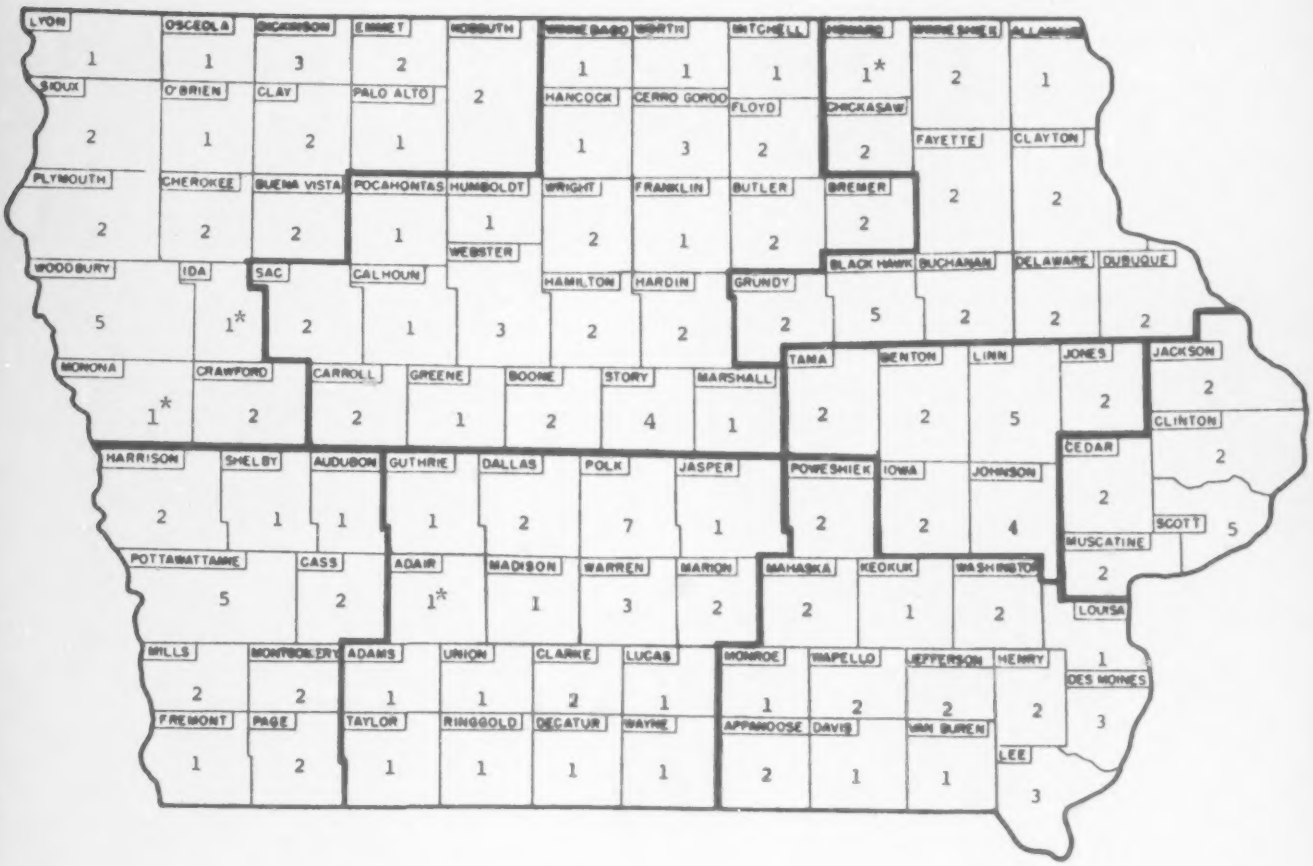


*Official 1983 population figures — U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

APPENDIX E

ALLOCATION OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES JULY 1, 1985 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1987

37 - one Magistrate counties
48 - two Magistrate counties
6 - three Magistrate counties
2 - four Magistrate counties
5 - five Magistrate counties
1 - seven Magistrate county



*Counties taking the option of appointing one additional magistrate as provided in section 602.58.

APPENDIX F

FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
1956-1985

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[a]	CRIMINAL[b]	TOTAL	(PER JUDGE)	JUVENILE[c]	PROBATE[d] OPENED
1985	99	54,005	41,116	95,121	(961)	6,060	24,790
1984	99	49,294	40,379	89,673	(906)	6,099	24,190
1983	99	51,476	39,952	91,428	(924)	5,532	24,233
1982	95	55,763	39,008	94,771	(998)	5,363	24,329
1981	95	58,225	36,932	95,157	(1,002)	5,570	24,192
1980	92	58,442	35,669	94,111	(1,028)	5,501	23,452
1979	92	51,031	31,026	82,057	(892)	5,227	23,479
1978	92	46,498	27,942	74,440	(809)	6,179	24,218
1977	92	43,324	28,795	72,119	(784)	6,000	23,202
1976	89	40,103	26,009	66,112	(742)	5,744	22,896
1975	84	37,963	23,600	61,563	(733)	5,685	22,640
1974	83	36,216	20,653	56,869	(685)	5,446	22,646
1973	83	38,057	16,148	54,205	(653)	3,730	22,803
1972	76	40,483	10,699	51,182	(673)	2,567	21,953
1971	76	40,315	11,300	51,615	(679)	3,249	21,317
1970	76	37,965	10,140	48,105	(633)	3,224	20,470
1969	76	35,574	9,505	45,079	(593)	2,876	20,158
1968	75	33,617	8,367	41,984	(560)	2,626	19,520
1967	76	31,646	7,496	39,142	(515)	2,367	19,310
1966	75	30,310	7,159	37,469	(500)	2,146	19,515
1965	75	29,207	7,432	36,639	(489)	2,163	19,463
1964	75	28,405	7,004	35,409	(472)	2,341	19,034
1963	75	28,138	6,641	34,779	(464)	2,096	18,532
1962	75	28,528	7,113	35,641	(475)	2,035	17,831
1961	75	28,288	7,209	35,497	(473)	1,880	17,346
1960	73	26,767	7,260	34,027	(466)	2,012	17,248
1959	73	25,136	7,086	32,222	(441)	2,005	17,117
1958	72	23,661	6,724	30,385	(422)	1,937	16,694
1957	72	23,579	6,486	30,065	(418)	1,921	16,945
1956	70	22,922	6,178	29,100	(416)	1,607	16,137

a. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims on appeal.
b. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.
c. Includes petitions filed in ordinary juvenile matters, e.g., delinquency, child and family in need of assistance and interstate compacts (extradition) matters; does not encompass cases involving termination of parental rights.
d. Includes the number of estates, trusteeships, guardianships and conservatorships opened.

APPENDIX G

OTHER FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

YEAR	SIMPLE MISDEMEANORS	SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS	SMALL CLAIMS
1985	229,425	426,362	73,752
1984	232,070	426,023	71,666
1983	221,841	418,124	67,298
1982	231,998	425,272	67,967
1981	267,436	470,553	75,259
1980	292,037	490,158	82,208
1979	291,404	462,224	78,141
1978	319,481	476,955	72,054
1977	410,862	310,710	65,434
1976	410,696	285,086	62,416
1975	375,707	223,622	63,582
1974*	286,504	198,147	68,021

*This was the first full year under the new unified court system which became effective July 1, 1973.

APPENDIX H

CIVIL/CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS BY DISTRICT COURT JUDGES[a] 1956-1985

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[b]	CRIMINAL[c]	TOTAL	PER JUDGE
1985	99	51,001	17,882	68,883	696
1984	99	49,324	20,382	69,706	704
1983	99	52,706	19,815	72,521	733
1982	95	54,484	19,027	73,511	774
1981	95	54,511	17,834	72,345	762
1980	92	52,799	17,448	70,247	764
1979	92	47,754	15,098	62,852	683
1978	92	41,898	14,561	56,459	614
1977	92	38,682	17,200	55,882	607
1976	89	37,319	17,750	55,069	619
1975	84	35,737	14,874	50,611	603
1974	83	35,007	14,268	49,275	594
1973	83	38,381	12,384	50,765	612
1972	76	40,553	11,147	51,700	680
1971	76	38,455	10,659	49,114	646
1970	76	35,636	9,304	44,940	591
1969	76	32,642	8,676	41,318	544
1968	75	29,541	8,035	37,576	501
1967	76	29,343	7,267	36,610	482
1966	75	30,140	6,916	37,056	494
1965	75	30,280	6,654	36,934	492
1964	75	28,258	6,757	35,015	467
1963	75	29,342	6,551	35,893	479
1962	75	28,941	7,165	36,106	481
1961	75	30,616	7,556	38,172	509
1960	73	24,094	7,196	31,290	429
1959	73	23,988	6,949	30,937	424
1958	72	23,304	6,533	29,837	414
1957	72	23,302	6,932	30,234	420
1956	70	21,741	5,836	27,577	394

a. Does not include civil and criminal cases disposed of by judges of limited jurisdiction and magistrates.
b. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims cases appealed to the district court.
c. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.